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Wednesday



Michael Smith, right, faces 8½ years in prison.

Convicted: Abu Ghraib dog handler found guilty of abuse | **6**

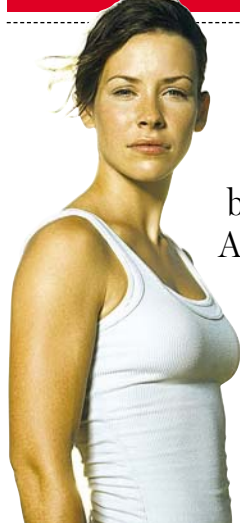
In Service: Arlington diocese allows female altar servers | **13**

Family Matters:

Thompson makes a name for himself at Georgetown | **15**



ENTERTAINMENT



Kate's Fate: *Evangeline Lilly* of 'Lost' might be destiny's child. Also, 'Super Monkey Ball' disappoints; Charles Bukowski on DVD.

>> **23-26**

Bush: No Quick Exit From Iraq

Says decision to withdraw forces will fall to future presidents

WASHINGTON | President Bush said Tuesday that American forces will remain in Iraq for years and it will be up to a future president to decide when to bring them all home. But defying critics and plunging polls, he declared, "I'm optimistic we'll succeed. If not, I'd pull our troops out."

The president rejected calls for the resignation of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, chief architect of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. "Listen, every war plan looks good on paper until you meet the enemy,"

Bush said, acknowledging mistakes as the United States was forced to switch tactics and change a reconstruction strategy that offered targets for insurgents.

He also rejected assertions by Iraq's former interim prime minister that the country had fallen into civil war amid sectarian violence that has left more than 1,000 Iraqis dead since the bombing last month of a Shiite Muslim shrine.

"This is a moment the Iraqis had a chance to fall apart and they didn't," Bush said, crediting the country's leaders with restraint.

The president spoke for nearly an hour at a White House news conference, part of a new offensive to ease Americans' unhappiness with the war and fellow Republicans' anxiety about fall elections. He faced skeptical questions about Iraq during an appearance Monday in Cleveland, and plans another address soon on Iraq.

Public support for the war and for Bush himself has fallen in recent months, jeopardizing the political capital he claimed from his 2004 re-election victory. "I'd say I'm spending that capital on the war," Bush said. **TERENCE HUNT (AP)**

Protests Gain Strength in Belarus



UNSWAYED: A couple dances during a rally Tuesday in Minsk supporting Belarus opposition leader Alexander Milinkevich. Thousands gathered to protest election results favoring authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko. ♦ **Solidarity:** Opposition calls for major demonstration Saturday | **Page 11**

Weather >> Sun and Wind



48 | 32

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE 35

TASERS | Salad Baaaaaarrghhh! The Aurora, Colo., police review board Monday cleared an officer of wrongdoing after he used his Taser stun gun on a man accused of stealing salad from a Chuck E. Cheese's restaurant, KMGH-TV reported. In February of last



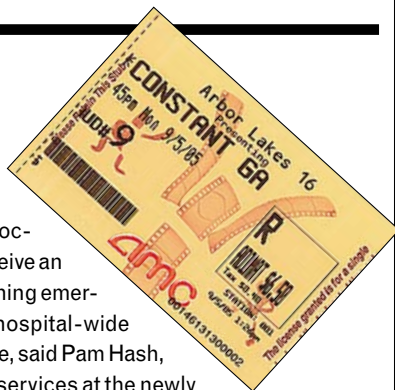
year, police were called to the eatery after a manager said Danon Gale was eating salad without showing proof he had paid. Gale, who was there with his two children, was told to leave but he refused. (EXPRESS) **EyeOpeners** | **Page 2**

eyeOpeners

MOVIES

'Crash' Was So Worth The Extra Blood Loss

A Chesterfield, Va., hospital says emergency room patients will be seen by a doctor in 30 minutes or less — or they'll receive an apology and free movie tickets. Shortening emergency-room waiting times is part of a hospital-wide initiative aimed at improving patient care, said Pam Hash, administrative director of emergency services at the newly opened St. Francis Medical Center. The free movie tickets were the marketing department's idea. "One of the big dissatisfiers for patients is the wait time they spend in the emergency department," Hash said. (AP)



NAMES

Frank Zappa Lucky He Doesn't Live There

China is introducing new rules on baby names to make sure they can be entered into the government's computer database, the Australian Associated Press reported. The database — and

accompanying identity cards — can only handle certain Chinese characters, so uncommon ones will be banned. "We cannot handwrite rare characters on the cards," said Bao Suixian of the Ministry of Public Security. The database has about 27,000 Chinese characters, whereas the preeminent Chinese dictionary has about 50,000. (EXPRESS)



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

FOOD

Increase Your Crust

If you want to be a delivery man for Mama Lena's Pizza House in McKees Rocks, Pa., your car better have a roof rack — after the eatery made a pizza Monday they hope will be heralded as the world's largest pizza for retail sale. The 150-piece monster measured 55 inches by 37 inches, and took 10.03 pounds of cheese, 14.97 pounds of dough and 8.26 pounds of sauce to construct — then took 20 minutes to bake. The "Big One" costs \$99.99 with one topping. (AP)



ESSAYS

'I'll Turn the Shop Into A Strip Joint' Loses

For \$100 and an essay, you could be the new owner of a Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., flower shop. "Having a real estate agent would be a boring way to sell the shop, and we wanted to have more fun with this, so my mother, who is a former high school English and history teacher, and I thought of this essay contest," said Wendy DeSousa, who owns the Dial-A-Flower shop with her mother. The owners estimate the business is worth about \$100,000; they hope to get 1,000 essays. (AP)

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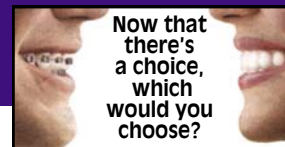
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BUYBACK: Disgraced former Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham's ill-gotten gains are going on the auction block, weeks after he was sent to prison for taking bribes. The booty includes a cedar-lined lingerie cabinet and a luxurious Persian rug.



Nation

In Brief

DALLAS
DNA Frees Man Convicted of Sexual Battery After 18 Years
A man who spent 18 years behind bars for allegedly attacking a woman in her home has been released after DNA testing excluded him as the attacker. Gregory Wallis, now 47, was a 29-year-old warehouse worker when he was convicted in 1988 of burglary with intent to commit sexual assault and sentenced to 50 years in prison. The case was closed until Wallis' 2004 request for post-conviction DNA analysis led to tests that found his didn't match the DNA from the crime scene. (AP)

DALLAS
Man Fleeing Deputies Dies After Getting Stuck in Mud
A man fleeing sheriff's deputies early Tuesday sank waist-deep into a mud hole and died as authorities tried to pull him out, officials said. The man's identity and cause of death were not immediately available, Dallas County Sheriff's spokesman Sgt. Don Peritz said. He said the weather was windy and temperatures in the upper 30s in the field, which had been saturated by heavy rains. (AP)

Waging War on Fat

→ A new large study has concluded that no amount of physical activity can completely erase the health risk associated with being overweight | **Today, A Section**

IN The Washington Post

Official Didn't See Moussaoui Memo

FBI supervisor says he wasn't aware of call for investigation of suspect

ALEXANDRIA, VA. | The headquarters supervisor of the FBI's international terrorism operations section testified Tuesday he had never read an Aug. 18, 2001, memo in which an agent proposed a full criminal investigation of Zacarias Moussaoui as a possible terrorist airplane hijacker.

The now-retired supervisor, Michael Rolince, was questioned by defense attorney Edward MacMahon during Moussaoui's sentencing trial. He was asked whether he had ever heard that Harry Samit, the FBI agent who arrested Moussaoui while he was taking pilot lessons in Minnesota, concluded the 37-year-old Frenchman of Moroccan descent was a terrorist planning to



COURT TV: The court listens to recorded video testimony from Hussein al-Attas, a former roommate of alleged 9/11 conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui on Tuesday.

hijack a commercial jetliner.

"No," Rolince snapped.

Called as a government witness, Rolince, a 31-year FBI veter-

an who retired last October, proved to be more valuable for attorneys defending the only man charged in this country in connection with al

Qaeda's Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema barred Rolince from giving a list of steps the FBI could have taken if Moussaoui had admitted when he was arrested Aug. 16, 2001, all the facts he confessed to when pleading guilty last April.

Instead, defense attorney MacMahon was able to extract from Rolince more embarrassing revelations about the FBI's handling of terrorism intelligence before 9/11.

To get a death penalty at this sentencing trial, the government must show that Moussaoui's lies upon arrest prevented the FBI from identifying 9/11 hijackers and the Federal Aviation Administration from altering airport security to have saved at least one of the nearly 3,000 people who died. MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN (AP)

Skakel Murder Conviction Appealed

STAMFORD, CONN. | An attorney for Kennedy cousin Michael Skakel said Tuesday she would appeal his murder conviction to the U.S. Supreme Court after the Connecticut Supreme Court refused to reconsider the case.



Skakel

Skakel, 45, is serving a sentence of 20 years to life for his 2002 conviction

in the 1975 beating death of his Greenwich neighbor, Martha Moxley.

Skakel appealed his conviction to the Connecticut Supreme Court last year, arguing among other things that the statute of limitations had expired when he was charged in 2000. The court unanimously rejected that appeal in January.

Attorney Hope Seeley said Tuesday she would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. (AP)

Ore. Family Found Alive After Weeks

MEDFORD, ORE. | Six family members missing in a recreational vehicle since March 4 were found alive Tuesday in a remote, snowy section of Southern Oregon, authorities said.

Bureau of Land Management workers first found two of the family members, who had decided to walk out of the woods and left the vehicle, sheriff's deputies said.

Later, search-and-rescue work-

ers in a helicopter made contact with the other four, said Sgt. David Marshall, spokesman for the Douglas County sheriff's department. A snow machine was headed into the area to pick up the four, Marshall said.

A press release from the Douglas County sheriff's office said the area "is not accessible by vehicle. There is a heavy snowpack."

The family of Pete Stivers, 29, and Marlo Hill-Stivers, 31, disappeared while traveling in a 35-foot recreational vehicle from Ashland on March 4 across the mountains to the Oregon coast. (AP)

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"We should be able to sustain another Katrina." — **New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin**, on the city's improved flood walls and evacuation plans.



Nation

Fla. Sex Abuse Case Dropped

Teacher accused of sleeping with teen still faces prosecution

TAMPA, FLA. | Prosecutors in one Florida county decided Tuesday to drop charges against a former Tampa teacher accused of having sex with a 14-year-old middle school student.

The decision, announced hours after a judge rejected a plea deal for Debra Lafave, means the victim won't have to testify.

Lafave's sentence in another county for having sex with the same

boy still stands.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys had urged the judge to accept the deal for the sake of the boy involved. A psychiatrist who examined the teenager told the judge at a previous hearing that the boy suffered extreme anxiety from the media coverage of the case.

Marion County Circuit Judge Hale Stancil, however, said the lack of prison time for Lafave under the plea deal "shocks the conscience of this court," and he rejected it.

Assistant State Attorney Richard Ridgway, in explaining the decision to drop the charges, said: "The court

may be willing to risk the well-being of the victims in this case in order to force it to trial. I am not."

Lafave, 25, was already sentenced to three years of house arrest and seven years' probation in Hillsborough County, where she was charged with having sex with the same boy. She pleaded guilty Nov. 22 to two counts of lewd and lascivious battery under a plea deal there.

Hillsborough County prosecutor Mike Sinacore has said that the victim's family had anticipated a trial, but that the media attention prompted the boy's mother to push for a plea deal. MITCH STACY (AP)



A worker clears snow from the Eastland Mall parking lot in Bloomington, Ill., on Tuesday. About four inches of snow fell as an early spring storm hit the city.

Spring Snow System Wallops Ohio Valley

Storm dumps more than 2 feet in Ill., Ind., snarls highway traffic

INDIANAPOLIS | The spring snow storm that buried parts of Nebraska under more than 2 feet of snow swept through the Ohio Valley on Tuesday, shutting down schools and making travel tough for voters headed for the polls for the Illinois' primary election.

As much as two inches of snow an hour fell in some areas of Illinois and Indiana, and wind gusted to 40 mph, weather officials said. In Colorado, Interstate 70 reopened

early Tuesday after its eastbound lanes between Denver and the Kansas line were shut down for nearly 18 hours because of heavy snow. Interstate 80 remained closed across central Nebraska but was expected to reopen during the day.

The storm dumped as much as 28 inches of snow on central Nebraska on Monday, 20 inches in parts of South Dakota and half a foot in the Oklahoma Panhandle. Wind piled the snow into drifts 7 feet high in parts of South Dakota and Nebraska. Farther south, heavy rain caused flooding in the Dallas area. ASHLEY M. HEHER (AP)

Cold War Bunker Found Housed in Brooklyn Bridge

NEW YORK | Workers inspecting the structural foundations of the Brooklyn Bridge uncovered a Cold War-era trove of basic provisions that were stockpiled amid fears of a nuclear attack.

The stash, discovered in a vault under an entrance ramp, includes water drums, canisters of calorie-packed crackers, paper blankets, medical supplies and drugs that were used to treat shock.

The estimated 352,000 Civil Defense All-Purpose Survival Crackers are apparently still intact, said Joseph Vaccaro, a supervisor at the city Transportation Department.

"We find stuff all the time, but what's sort of eerie about this is that this is a bridge that thousands of people go over each day," Transportation commissioner Iris Weinshall said Monday. "They walk over it, cars go over it, and this stuff was just sitting there."

Fallout shelters were common during the 1950s, but most were dismantled. (AP)



WHO KNEW? Colorado will release 14 lynx into the wilderness in April as part of the Division of Wildlife's efforts to restore the longhaired, reclusive cat back to the state. (AP)

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Nation

Army Dog Handler Guilty of Abuse

Sergeant convicted of mistreating inmates at Abu Ghraib prison

FORT MEADE, MD. | An Army dog handler at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq was convicted Tuesday of tormenting prisoners with his snarling animal and competing with a comrade to make the Iraqis soil themselves.

Sgt. Michael J. Smith, 24, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was found guilty at a court-martial of six of 13 counts. The judge later dismissed one of those six counts, saying it duplicated another.

A sentencing hearing began in the afternoon, and will conclude Wednesday. The five charges carried up to 8 years behind bars.

Prosecutors said Smith let his unmuzzled black Belgian shepherd bark and lunge at several prisoners for his own amusement. One of the photographs that led to the exposure of the scandal at the Iraqi prison shows his dog straining on its leash, just inches from the face of a cowering prisoner.

The defense maintained that Smith was a good soldier who believed he was doing what the government wanted canine han-



Sgt. Michael J. Smith, leaves the courthouse in Ft. Meade, Md., in early March.

dlers to do at Abu Ghraib: provide security and frighten interrogation subjects.

The jury deliberated for about 18 hours over three days.

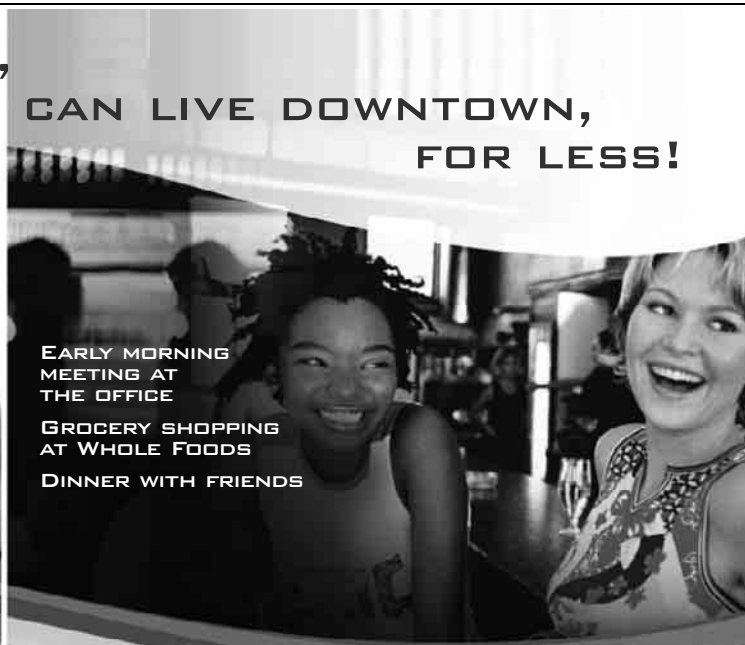
Smith was found guilty of maltreatment involving three prisoners, conspiring with another dog handler in a contest to make detainees soil themselves, dereliction of duty, assault and an indecent act. The assault charge was dismissed.

DAVID DISHNEAU (AP)

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MINNESOTA | GAY MARRIAGE OPPONENTS PROTEST



RALLY THE VOTE: Eileen Sather, left, and Mary Hagberg, right, listen to speakers at a rally at the state Capitol in St. Paul, Minn., on Tuesday to give citizens a chance to vote on a state constitutional ban on same-sex marriage.

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ADS1532 HD

11%

The percentage of Danes allowed to enjoy a beer over lunch, a recent study shows. That figure represents a big drop from a similar survey in 2002, when 56 percent of workers were permitted to have a cold one at midday.

World

Gunmen Kill 20 in Iraqi Prison Raid

Sunni insurgent group frees 33 detainees after battle with jailers

BAGHDAD, IRAQ | About 100 masked gunmen stormed a prison near the Iranian border Tuesday, cutting phone wires, freeing all the inmates and leaving behind a scene of devastation and carnage — 20 dead policemen, burned-out cars and a smoldering jailhouse.

At least 10 attackers were killed in the dawn assault on the Muqdadiyah lockup on the eastern fringe of the Sunni Triangle, police said. The raid showed the mostly Sunni militants can still assemble a large force, capable of operating in the region virtually at will — even though U.S. and Iraqi military officials said last year that the area was no longer an insurgent stronghold.

In all, 33 prisoners were freed, including 18 insurgents who were detained Sunday during raids by security forces in the nearby villages of Sansal and Arab, police said. It



BRAZEN ATTACK: An Iraqi police officer looks at a damaged vehicle in Muqdadiyah, the site of Tuesday's deadly prison raid.

was the capture of those insurgents that apparently prompted Tuesday's attack. The 15 other inmates were a mix of suspected insurgents and common criminals.

In an Internet posting Tuesday night, the military wing of the Mujaheddin Shura Council, a

militant Sunni Muslim insurgent group, purportedly claimed it carried out the operation. The posting said the group killed "40 policemen, liberated 33 prisoners and captured weapons."

In other violence Tuesday, a U.S. soldier with the 4th Infantry

Division was killed by small-arms fire while patrolling western Baghdad, the U.S. military reported. SINAN SALAHEDDIN (AP)

Face to face: U.S. senators visit Iraq and urge quick progress on a new government | **Today's Post, A Section**

In Brief



Russia's Vladimir Putin speaks with China's Hu Jintao in Beijing Tuesday.

BEIJING Putin Backs Gas Pipeline In New Sign of Energy Ties

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced plans Tuesday to step up energy supplies to China with a new gas pipeline network opening within five years, but there was no word of an agreement on a separate pipeline sought by Beijing to deliver Siberian oil to its exploding economy. The announcements came after Putin and his Chinese counterpart, Hu Jintao, met for the fifth time in less than a year and pledged to promote political and trade ties. (AP)

NAIROBI, KENYA U.N. Seeking \$327M to Aid Drought-Stricken Somalia

The United Nations appealed Tuesday for nearly \$327 million in aid to help starving people in southern Somalia, which is suffering its worst drought in a decade. About 2.1 million people are coping with severe food shortages caused by prolonged drought, war, displacement, flooding and human rights abuses, said the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. (AP)

MADRID, SPAIN Judge Indicts 32 People in Alleged Plot to Attack Court

A judge indicted 32 people for an alleged 2004 plot to carry out a massive truck bombing against Madrid's National Court, the hub of Spain's anti-terror investigations, authorities said Tuesday. The 32 men, mostly Algerians, were charged with membership in a terrorist organization, conspiracy to commit a terrorist attack and forgery, Judge Fernando Grande-Marlaska said in his March 13 ruling. (AP)

Alleged Terror Gang's U.K. Plots Detailed in Court

LONDON | Suspected terrorists planning attacks in Britain were considering bombing nightclubs, trains or the country's power network, and were in the final stages of the al Qaeda-linked plot when they were arrested, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

The seven defendants — all British — were caught in anti-terror raids in and around London in March 2004, during which police seized 1,300 pounds of ammonium nitrate fertilizer used for home-made bombs.

Members of the group had previously flown to Pakistan for instruction at terrorist training camps and received backing from an al Qaeda operative, prosecutor David Waters said at the start of their trial.

The defendants have pleaded not guilty. (AP)

French Hit Streets Again on Jobs Law

Villepin signals his willingness to soften part of divisive statute

PARIS | Protesters lobbed bottles at riot police after new, mostly peaceful, marches by French students trying to ratchet up pressure on the premier to scrap a contested labor law.

Dominique de Villepin expressed willingness to soften part of the contested "first job contract" but refused to consider canceling it altogether.

"The law is well-crafted," he said during a meeting with young unemployed people in Poissy. Still, he said he was ready to make improvements to it and invited critics to "sit around a table" to discuss it.

As he spoke Tuesday, the fourth student-led protest in eight days surged through the capital, with at least 5,000 marching across



Some 5,000 protesters took part in a march against a new labor law in Paris Tuesday.

the Left Bank and shouting "It's the street that rules!" in defiance of Villepin.

Tensions mounted after the march, as several hundred protesters tossed bottles and stones at riot police around the picturesque Luxembourg Gardens in Paris. A few stragglers took advantage of the

chaotic scene to steal cell phones and break mirrors off several cars. About 10 people were taken into custody, judicial officials said.

The protests have highlighted the complex challenges faced by many European governments looking to reform their job markets amid globalization. JAMEY KEATEN (AP)

A Child's Secret to Winning on Wall Street

Soccer kid's portfolio up 355% in six months



At 12 years of age, in his soccer shorts, Christian Powers is not your average Wall Street investor. But his hefty profits aren't average either. Christian began

trading stocks just after his twelfth birthday, when his parents finally said he was old enough. In his first six months, Christian's portfolio was up 355%.

Software makes child's play of mastering stocks

How does a 12-year-old generate triple-digit gains that would be the envy of almost any investor? Christian's secret is Wizetrade™, a user-friendly software program that tracks the supply and demand of individual stocks and graphically captures the stock's movement. Once Christian sees the historical trend — and the current direction the stock has taken — he forms his trading strategy.

Homeschooled by his mom, Treva, an experienced Wizetrader™, Christian was introduced to Wizetrade™ as part of his general education. "It's important for anyone to know good money management," explains Treva.

Spreading the wealth

"We tell our friends that if you're interested in stocks or ever consider buying stocks, get Wizetrade™ first because you need to

be able to see what's going on with the stock," says Treva.

Stock runs in the family

Christian's younger sister, Summer, paper trades only, which means she uses Wizetrade™ to assess theoretical trades and then tracks their progress in real time. It's how to become familiar with Wizetrade™ without putting actual funds into the market. "The first paper trade she made is still successful," says her proud dad, Parris.

Dad's portfolio up 500+ percent

Christian has taken his "Wizetrading" to heart — and to the bank. Christian's mom and dad also use Wizetrade™ and, in fact, introduced him to the software. His mom, Treva, says, "My average over the last 26 trades has been 12 to 13 percent gain." Christian's dad, Parris, adds that with Wizetrade™, "Over the last two years, I've probably increased my asset (base) over 500 or 600 percent."

"It saved our retirement account."

For the Powers family, it's not just about making money. It's also about protecting what they've earned. When the U.S. stock market plunged five years ago and investors lost trillions of dollars, Parris says, "Our retirement portfolio was not affected in one little way by the movement that we saw in the market in 2001... That's probably the single most impressive thing about Wizetrade™ — it saved our retirement account."

Wizetrade™ was wise to Enron

Wizetrade™ focuses on the buying and selling activity in individual stocks. "The great thing about Wizetrade™ is that if you follow the Wizetrade™ criteria, you'd never be trapped into a stock like an Enron. The signals would show up very quickly... you'd be out of that stock long before it becomes a liability like Enron has become to so many people in their retirement portfolio," explains Parris.

Life without Wizetrade™ is not an option

Treva says investing without the advantage of Wizetrade™ would be "like a surgeon trying to do surgery without his eyes. When you have Wizetrade™, you can see what's



Following stocks can be child's play. Wizetrade™ shows if the market is bullish or bearish on more than 27,000 stocks and mutual funds — whether your investing strategy is long term, intermediate, or short term.

going on and choose when to get in a stock and when to exit the stock. We're just so pleased with it."

Parris adds, "Having traded stocks beforehand, and now trading stocks using Wizetrade™, we would never trade stocks or buy stocks without using Wizetrade™."

Up \$18,000 in two months

In May and June of 2002, when many stocks were declining, Wizetrade™ helped the Powers family identify stocks that investors still had strong confidence in. "Just watching those stocks, and entering and exiting according to Wizetrade™ criteria, we made over \$18,000 in just those two months," reports Parris.

Still, 12-year-old Christian is the family's budding superstar. "He made \$720 a few days ago on one of his trades. He's tickled," says Treva.

Christian doesn't hand out stock tips. His advice to everyone is simply to give Wizetrade™ a try. "Anybody can do it," predicts the successful young Wizetrader™.

- ☒ Witness for yourself which stocks investors are buying and which stocks they're dumping.
- ☒ Discover if you're holding blue chips that have investors singing the blues.
- ☒ See why market newsletters, magazines, and newspapers can't match the real-time market analysis of Wizetrade™.

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Anyone can be positioned to beat the market if they harness the power of the two key factors that rule Wall Street with an iron fist.

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WTP168AFP - Washington WK 13



ON THE CHEAP: Famously thrifty IKEA founder Ingvar Kamrad says he has no plans to go on a spending spree even though he made a \$387,000 donation to an art school this week. "I'm stingy and I'm proud of the reputation," Kamrad told reporters in Switzerland.

World

NIGERIA | UNEASY START TO CENSUS TAKING



COUNTED: An official surveys a woman in Lagos, Nigeria, on Tuesday as part of the start of a five-day census. Separatists killed two people and a census worker was feared drowned as officials began the first population count in 15 years in the sprawling nation riven by ethnic, religious and economic tensions.

Belarus Protests Continue

Opposition leader urges backers to keep pushing for new vote

MINSK, BELARUS | Thousands of Belarusians demonstrated on a central Minsk square for the third straight evening Tuesday, swelling the ranks of a core group that had spent the previous night to protest the extension of authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko's rule.

Opposition leader Alexander Milinkevich, who has denounced the election that gave Lukashenko a new five-year term as a fraud and called for a new vote, urged demonstrators to keep up daily protests and called for a major show of strength Saturday.

"Come here every day to speak of freedom," Milinkevich said, speaking in the glow from TV cameras after the lighting on Oktyabrskaya Square was shut off, plunging protesters into darkness and adding to



Opposition leader Alexander Milinkevich greets protesters in Minsk on Tuesday.

concerns of a crackdown by security forces.

Saturday is the anniversary of the declaration of independence of the first, short-lived Belarusian republic in 1918, and a traditional day for Lukashenko's opponents to hold protests.

The opposition has set up about 15 tents to try to lay the groundwork for around-the-clock actions

resembling Ukraine's 2004 Orange Revolution that forced a rerun of a fraudulent presidential election.

Milinkevich spoke shortly after ambassadors from European Union countries, including Britain, France, Latvia and Lithuania, visited the tent camp to show their support for opponents of a leader who has been branded a dictator by the West.

JIM HEINTZ (AP)

Iran's Supreme Leader Backs Talks With U.S.

TEHRAN, IRAN | Supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Tuesday that he approves of proposed talks between U.S. and Iranian officials on Iraq, but warned that the U.S. must not try to "bully" Iran.

It was the first confirmation that Khamenei, who holds final say on all state matters in Iran, is in favor of the talks. His comments appeared aimed at calming criticism by hard-liners over a major shift in policy by the regime, which long shunned contacts with a country Tehran brands "the Great Satan."

Khamenei spoke hours after President Bush said he favors the talks, in which he said American officials would show Iran "what's right or wrong in their activities inside of Iraq."

Khamenei said that "if the Iranian officials can make the U.S. understand some issues about Iraq,

there is no problem with the negotiations."

"But if the talks mean opening a venue for bullying and imposition by the deceitful party (the Americans), then it will be forbidden," he said in a nationally televised speech.



Khamenei

Both the U.S. and Iran have said the talks will focus solely on Iraq and not deal with Iran's disputed nuclear program.

In his speech, Khamenei also dismissed the threat of U.N. Security Council action over Iran's nuclear program. The Security Council postponed a meeting Tuesday on the Iranian nuclear issue as the West searched for ways to break a deadlock with Russia and China over the best way to pressure Tehran, diplomats said. (AP)



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express

Money

Colgate Buying Tom's of Maine

Dental products will retain their all-natural formula, founder says

PORTLAND, MAINE | Colgate-Palmolive Co. announced Tuesday it's buying Tom's of Maine, the leading maker of natural toothpaste, which used to criticize big toothpaste makers for putting artificial additives like saccharin in their products.

The \$100 million cash deal for privately owned Tom's of Maine, which got its start in 1970 by producing a phosphate-free laundry detergent, reflects Colgate's strategy of focusing on the higher-margin oral and personal care businesses.

But founder Tom Chappell said that neither the company's business philosophy nor its quirky toothpaste flavors will change.

Colgate said the purchase of 84 percent of the Kennebunk-based business is expected to close in the second quarter. The Chappell family that founded the company will keep a 16 percent stake.

Chappell said Tom's of Maine, with annual sales of about \$50 million, will maintain its prod-



Colgate is purchasing 84 percent of the Tom's of Maine dental care business.

uct formulas and be managed as a stand-alone subsidiary. But he said Colgate's financial clout and distribution network will enable his brands to grow to their full potential.

At one time, his company ran radio ads pointing out that mainstream toothpaste makers put saccharin in their toothpaste but Tom's of Maine did not. Its Web site claims that the company's products are free of artificial ingredients used by most of its competitors. (AP)



French lawmakers want Apple to reveal the technology behind its popular iPod.

New French Bill Aiming to Unlock iPod's Secrets

PARIS | French lawmakers approved an online copyright bill Tuesday that would require Apple to break open the exclusive format behind its market-leading iTunes music store and iPod players.

The draft law would force Apple Computer Inc., Sony Corp. and others to share proprietary copy-protection technologies so that rivals can offer compatible services and players.

Lawmakers in the National Assembly, France's lower house, voted 296-193 to approve the bill. The legislation now has to be debated and voted by the Senate.

Apple has so far refused to comment on the bill or on analysts' suggestions that the company might choose to withdraw from the French music market rather than share the proprietary technology. (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
BallyTotF	8.99	+1.15	+14.7
JonesApp	34.84	+4.02	+13.0
PhIVH	38.96	+3.71	+10.5
CorusGr	16.23	+1.33	+8.9
GameStB	41.29	+3.33	+8.8

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
ValeantPh	16.03	-2.65	-14.2
Applica h	2.60	-.37	-12.5
GraphPk	2.08	-.20	-8.8
AlliancOne	4.33	-.36	-7.7
FdgCCT gs	37.55	-2.84	-7.0

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
AvantImm	2.54	+.66	+35.1
GenBiotc	4.23	+.90	+27.0
Shuff Mst If	32.05	+5.82	+22.2
MicroLin	2.00	+.33	+19.8
Healthwys	47.14	+7.62	+19.3

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
WorldSp n	5.95	-1.49	-20.0
IbisTech	3.21	-.65	-16.9
WillmsInds	2.33	-.45	-16.2
NymoxPh	4.05	-.66	-14.0
AHPC Hld h	2.05	-.32	-13.5

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	7.50	7.50
Fed Funds close	4.5625	4.50
3-month disc	4.57	4.51
2-year	4.74	4.73
10-year	4.72	4.77
30-year	4.75	4.76

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5722	.5694	.5267
Canadian Dollar	1.1628	1.1610	1.2107
European Euro	.8266	.8221	.7591
Japanese Yen	117.10	116.21	105.04
Mexican Peso	10.8250	10.7580	11.2430
Taiwanese Dollar	32.46	32.38	31.15

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
-39.06	-19.88	-7.85
-0.35	-0.86	-0.60
11235.47	2294.23	1297.23

Media Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
CBS B n	24.78	+.38	-2.8
ClearChan	29.49	...	-6.2
Comcast	26.72	-.18	+3.1
Comc sp	26.68	-.15	+3.9
DirectTV	16.02	-.02	+13.5
Disney	28.10	-.54	+17.2
LibertyMA	8.07	-.05	+2.5
McGrwH s	56.75	-.38	+9.9
NewsCpA	16.44	-.10	+5.7
NewsCpB	17.44	-.06	+5.0
Omnicom	82.03	+.10	-3.6
Thomson	37.82	-.15	+9.3
TimeWan	17.06	-.09	-2.2
Viacom B n	38.10	-.90	-7.4
WPP Gp	59.67	+.55	+10.5



BALL PARK: D.C. officials are sending out information on parking permits for people who live near RFK Stadium. The permits are needed to make sure that street spots are reserved for people who live there — rather than taken by Nationals fans.

Local

Williams Unveils Budget

\$7.5 billion spending plan fulfills mayor's pledge on income tax

WASHINGTON | With just over nine months remaining before he leaves office, the mayor of the nation's capital unveiled a \$7.5 billion spending plan Tuesday that modestly increases spending for health care and education while fulfilling a 1999 commitment to cut income taxes.

"The District's economy remains strong. The continued economic vitality allows us to fulfill the commitments that I've made to the citizens," Mayor Anthony Williams said about his "Citizens' Budget." The mayor, who is not seeking a third term this fall, called the combination of tax relief, neighborhood revitalization and job training programs in the plan "fiscally responsible."

While overall spending increases more than six percent, the plan has \$350 million in tax relief. Income taxes for those earning less than \$10,000 will fall 0.5 percent to four percent. The city's highest income tax rate — for those earning more than \$40,000 — will fall 0.2 percent to 8.5 percent. DERRILL HOLLY (AP)

LARGO, MD. | SHOCK AND AWWWW



FREE BRIDE: Christine Moore and her fiancé, Daron Hall, were at the Radisson Hotel in Largo on Tuesday, where they were announced as winners of the hotel's "Dream Wedding" contest. The two will get a free wedding reception in July 2007 at the hotel, including rooms and an open bar.

Altar Girls Now Allowed For Arlington Catholics

Diocese had been one of only two in nation to limit female service

WASHINGTON | Altar girls will be permitted at Roman Catholic churches in Northern Virginia, expanding a practice that is common across the country, the leader of the Diocese of Arlington announced Tuesday.

Arlington had been one of only two dioceses out of nearly 200 in the United States that limited the ability of women and girls to serve at the altar and assist priests during Mass. Lincoln, Neb., is the other.

The diocese, which includes 67 parishes and more than 400,000 Catholics, previously allowed

females to serve in places like hospitals, nursing homes and colleges.

With the change, women and girls in Northern Virginia will be able to serve at parishes and high schools, Bishop Paul Loverde said.

"Hallelujah," said Rea Howarth of Front Royal, Va., who is active in Catholics Speak Out, a group that encourages reform in the Catholic Church. "Long we have waited."

Howarth said her 21-year-old daughter had wanted to be an altar girl since she was 8, and decided not to be confirmed in the Church because she couldn't serve.

The decision to allow altar girls is ultimately up to parish priests, who must write a letter to the bishop seeking the change. BRIAN WESTLEY (AP)

Officials Say Md. Fires May Be Related

ROCKVILLE, MD. | Investigators asked for the public's help Tuesday as they search for whoever is behind a series of suspicious fires in recent weeks.

"We had a fire (Monday) afternoon in an area in Rockville where we have had about a dozen or so fires over the last month," said Pete Piringer, spokesman for the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service. "And although not all of them have been connected,

we believe one person, or a group of persons is responsible for at least some of them."

The fires began in mid-February. Piringer said cars, trash and playground equipment are among the items torched. In the most recent case on Monday, a vehicle was set on fire in front of the Board of Elections building. That happened during the day, but Piringer said most of the fires are in the overnight hours. (AP)

HEARSAY | BUDGETS

"The Senate will hinder Virginia's environmental progress. Their proposal will jeopardize all the good work that's been done."

—WILLIAM HOWELL, VA. HOUSE SPEAKER SAYING THE STATE SENATE'S BUDGET PROPOSAL WOULD GUT A TAX CREDIT PROGRAM THAT SECURES LAND FOR CONSERVATION

Apartment Fire Claims Life of 2-Year-Old Boy

BLADENSBURG, MD. | A 2-year-old boy was killed in a fire at his apartment Tuesday, Prince George's County fire officials said.

Although the boy was rescued from the third-floor apartment, he died at a hospital, said Mark Brady, a fire department spokesman.

The boy's mother tried to get back into the burning building to rescue her son, then directed firefighters to him.

"They threw a ladder to the window, went up in the window, found the child, pulled the child out, down the ladder and ran him over to the closest ambulance," said Assistant Chief James Johns of the Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department. (AP)

In Brief

ANNAPOLIS, MD.

Md. Senate Debates Bill on Gubernatorial Appointments

Legislation dealing with gubernatorial appointments touched off a partisan fight in the Maryland Senate Tuesday, with Republican Minority Leader J. Lowell Stoltzfus calling it a mean-spirited attack on Transportation Secretary Robert Flanagan. The bill would require a governor elected to a second term to reappoint his cabinet secretaries, giving the Senate a chance to veto the appointments by refusing to confirm the nominations. Democrats,

who are angry with Flanagan in a funding dispute, said the bill was not aimed at him. (AP)

HARRISBURG, PA.

More Than 4,000 in Virginia May Get Magazine Refunds

The publisher of Time magazine has agreed to pay nearly \$4.5 million to end investigations into whether it deceptively marketed and billed people for subscription renewals, Pennsylvania's attorney general said Tuesday. Time will make about \$4.3 million available in refunds, Attorney General Tom Corbett said. In Virginia, \$179,000 will be available for restitution to more than 4,000 consumers, Attorney General Bob McDonnell said. (AP)

Pedestrian Safety Campaign Begins

ALEXANDRIA, VA. | Regional leaders kicked off a campaign Tuesday to reduce pedestrian deaths and injuries in the Washington area.

As part of the month-long "Street Smart" campaign, authorities hope to change the behavior of motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists by stepping up traffic enforcement at dangerous intersections and launching public service announcements on radio, billboards and buses. (AP)

The Lotteries

Tuesday, March 21

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Mid-day Lucky Numbers	6-2-1 (White)
Evening Lucky Numbers	2-9-2 (White)
Mid-day DC 4	1-3-1-9
Evening DC 4	1-9-8-9
Rolling Cash Five	17-16-22-31-13

Daily 6 **6-28-29-4-25-26 Bonus: 16**

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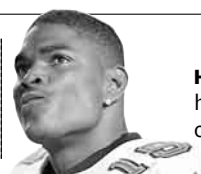
Mid-day Pick 3	1-9-7
Evening Pick 3	4-6-2
Mid-day Pick 4	8-1-1-2
Evening Pick 4	3-0-3-2
Match 5	5-6-27-28-37 Bonus: 19

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Tues.)	6-0-7
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.)	6-3-0
Mid-day Pick 4 (Tues.)	7-3-5-5
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.)	8-4-5-0
Mid-day Cash 5 (Tues.)	2-4-12-29-32
Evening Cash 5 (Mon.)	7-9-15-17-22

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Sports



HIS KIND OF TOWN: Keyshawn Johnson is exploring a return to the city where he became famous as much for his off-field statements as for his on-field pass catching. The former Jets receiver was visiting the New York Giants on Tuesday.

Nats Wait on Soriano's Next Move

Outfield question may come to a head again in Wednesday's game

NATIONALS | Alfonso Soriano and the Washington Nationals were stuck in a holding pattern Tuesday. The team had a day off, and no one seems to know whether he will agree to move from second base to left field.

It's not the first time Soriano's career has been affected by a proposed position change.

He was a shortstop in the minors, then moved to second base late in spring training before his rookie season with the New York Yankees in 2001, when Chuck Knoblauch accepted a shift from second to left field.

Soriano wound up becoming an All-Star at second for New York. Then, in 2004, he was shipped to Texas in the deal that sent Alex Rodriguez to the Yankees (where Rodriguez moved from shortstop to third base).

There was talk that spring of moving Soriano to the outfield, because the Rangers already had a second baseman in Michael Young. But the day before the first full-squad spring workout, Young offered to move over to shortstop.

"That's the difference to me: Michael Young is the type who stepped up before we had to make a decision," Rangers GM Jon Daniels said Tuesday. "That's why Michael is such a leader on this team."



SECOND THOUGHTS: Frank Robinson says he'll pencil in Soriano at left field, not second base, vs. St. Louis on Wednesday.

NATS NOTES

→ Former major leaguers Dante Bichette, Keith Moreland and Darnell Coles were hired by the Nationals on Tuesday as minor league roving hitting instructors. Bichette, a four-time All-Star, hit .274 homers and 1,141 RBIs for five teams. Moreland, a member of Phillies' 1980 World Series championship team, hit .279 with 121 homers and 674 RBIs. Coles hit .245 with 75 homers and 368 RBIs.

Texas traded Soriano to Washington this offseason, and he was to make his first appearance in a Nationals uniform Monday night in an exhibition game against the Dodgers. He was listed on a lineup sheet in left field but he refused to go into the game.

Another big moment comes Wednesday, when the Nationals travel to Jupiter, Fla. for an exhibition against the St. Louis Cardinals. Soriano is expected to be penciled

into the lineup in left field again.

"The next step is to write his name in the lineup for Wednesday's game and see if he will show up in Jupiter and go out and play the outfield," Nationals manager Frank Robinson said after Monday's 11-5 loss to Los Angeles.

Soriano's refusal to play in the game prompted Nationals general manager Jim Bowden to threaten putting Soriano on the disqualified list. (AP)

In Brief

FIGURE SKATING

U.S. Ice Dancing Pair Waltzes Into Third Place

Tanith Belbin and Ben Agosto took a little time out from their busy schedule to go dancing Tuesday. The American Olympic silver medalists placed third in the compulsory waltz at the World Figure Skating Championships. That's fine with them, because the waltz doesn't highlight the passion and energy that is their strength. It calls for elegance, catering more to Bulgaria's Albena Denkova and Maxim Staviski, and Canada's Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon. (AP)



Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto skate in the world championships.

FOOTBALL

Jaguars Lock Up Tackle

Defensive tackle John Henderson signed a six-year contract extension with the Jacksonville Jaguars on Tuesday, locking up another cornerstone of one of the team's defenses. Terms of the deal were not released, but Henderson's agent, Tim McGee, said the new contract gave Henderson more guaranteed money than any other NFL tackle. (AP)

BASEBALL

Cubans Return as Heroes

Cuba's baseball players were welcomed home as national heroes on Tuesday after placing second in the inaugural World Classic. Clutching flowers and waving red, white and blue Cuban flags, the players' wives, children and other relatives greeted them with hugs and kisses on the tarmac after their flight arrived from San Diego. Japan won the World Classic title Monday night with a 10-6 win over Cuba. "We'll be back," promised Yadel Marti, selected best pitcher in the World Classic. (AP)



All-Star Brian Roberts went 0-for-3 in his first game of the spring on Tuesday.

O's Welcome Roberts Back to Lineup

All-Star survives scare in his first game back since shoulder surgery

ORIOLES | Baltimore Orioles second baseman Brian Roberts dove awkwardly in short right field, lunging to get the baseball that had caromed off first baseman Javy Lopez's mitt.

Roberts lay outstretched for an instant before instinctively grabbing the ball and firing a throw too weak to catch a runner trotting across home plate. He rubbed his sore left wrist,

which got caught under him when he tumbled, and made eye contact with rightfielder Jay Gibbons.

"If I didn't blow out on that one, I ain't blowing out, I don't guess," said Roberts, who was 0-for-3 in his spring training debut Tuesday, a 6-5 victory over the New York Mets.

"I was a little scared," Roberts added. "I looked up at Jay to make sure everything was still attached."

The gruesome elbow injury he sustained last September behind him, Roberts is intent on being in Baltimore's opening day lineup

on April 3. He said his first spring training game should answer any doubters. "Not only for myself, but for the staff and for my teammates," said Roberts, who hit .314 with 18 homers and 67 RBIs — all career highs — last year.

Based on one appearance, manager Sam Perlozzo sounded convinced. "I didn't see any problems. ... I didn't see any hesitation on his part," Perlozzo said. Perlozzo added that he would probably play Roberts for two days and then rest him for one until he's sure Roberts is fit. (AP)



BEST HONOR: Belfast City Airport will be renamed for the late soccer great George Best on May 22, when he would have turned 60. Best died 4 months ago due to alcoholism.

Sports

A Different Era for Hoyas

Thompson III has his father's name, but not his demeanor at GU

HOYAS HOOPS | Asked to describe Georgetown coach John Thompson III, sophomore forward Jeff Green answered: "Laid-back. Very."

"It think it's cool," Green elaborated, "because I'm a laid-back kind of dude, so me and him, we have type of a bond."

Laid back? A college basketball coach? A Georgetown coach named Thompson?

"The only comparison I see between those two," senior Darrel Owens said, "is they both want to win."

One other thing father and son have in common: Each has led his own Georgetown renaissance. The father put the Hoyas on the map in the '70s, and the son this year ended the school's five-year NCAA tournament drought. Georgetown (23-9), now in the round of 16, will face Florida on Friday in Minneapolis.

"When I took this job, if you would have said two years from now you're going to be in the Sweet 16, I'd sign off on that, right then and there," the younger Thompson said Tuesday.

Take that quote and frame it. It's about as philosophical as he gets.

Not so the father. Big John, as he is affectionately known around campus, was a larger-than-life, intimidating presence of a coach, a 6-foot-10 tower with a booming bass voice that could make the weak scurry for cover.



John Thompson Jr., hugs son John Thompson III, who has Georgetown in the Sweet 16 for the first time in five years. The son has done it his way for the Hoyas.

"Terry Holland, Larranaga's first boss in coaching, has given him a new nickname: 'Rock Star.'"

John Feinstein examines the past few days for George Mason coach Jim Larranaga | **Today in Sports**

The Washington Post

He was an outspoken, big-picture leader who once walked off the off the court before a home game to protest an NCAA rule. He exuded what became known as "Hoya Paranoia," reinforced by his tight

restrictions on access to himself and his players.

His 40-year-old son is more approachable, more accessible, more like a regular guy. He's really as much Georgetown as Princeton, the school he attended and where he learned and adopted the methodical possession offense of legendary coach Pete Carril.

"I'm not like John Thompson I, either," the elder Thompson said. "I think that John is who he is. I wouldn't describe him as laid-back, but I think he digests stuff before he reacts to it." JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

Joke's on Duke Reserve

NCAA HOOPS | It should have been the crowning moment in one of Lee Melchionni's best games in weeks. Instead, he had to fend off ridicule from his teammates.

Duke was finishing off a surprisingly easy victory over George Washington in the second round of the NCAA tournament when Melchionni drove down the base line. Instead of a simple layup, the former walk-on decided to try for a dunk.

And he promptly clanged it off the back of the rim.

"I was too high," Melchionni quipped. "I was worried about the backboard, I didn't want to break it. And I didn't want to hit my head or anything."

As can be expected, he continues to receive some good-natured ribbing. Melchionni's roommate, center Shelden Williams, was on the court at the time and had a nice

view of the play.

"I can live with a missed dunk, but squeaking it in and falling down when you're by yourself, that's different," Williams said. "He's making better strides to becoming a better dunker, I guess."

Melchionni's improvement has come in many other areas, too. He's averaging nearly six points in a reserve role as the Blue Devils are in the round of 16 for the ninth straight year, where they will play LSU on Thursday in the Atlanta Regional. KEITH PARSONS (AP)

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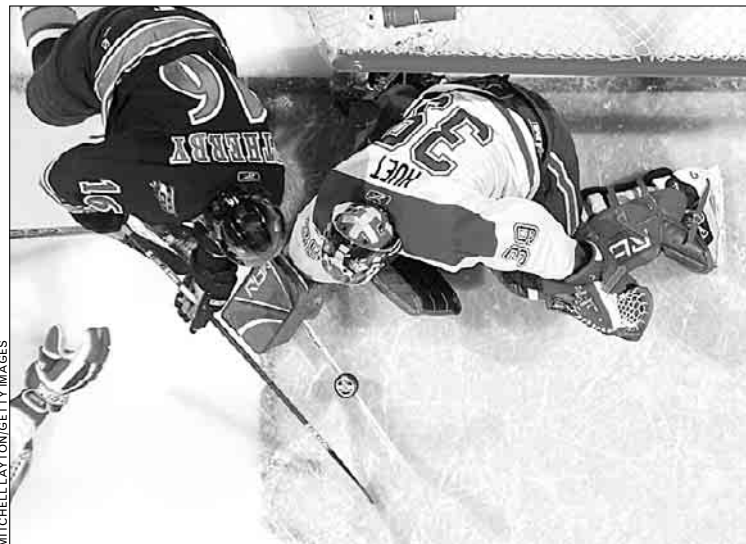
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Sports



Brian Sutherby, left, takes a close-in shot in the Caps' loss to Montreal Wednesday.

Sliding Caps Start A Long Road Trip

Washington has just 3 games left this season at the Verizon Center

CAPITALS | Losers of six straight and holders of the NHL's worst road record, the beleaguered Washington Capitals will play 12 of their final 15 games away from home starting tonight against the Florida Panthers. The 22-37-8 Caps will play seven consecutive games in their road whites before returning to F Street in two weeks.

The scheduling quirk is partly due to this weekend's NCAA Tournament at Verizon Center, but also is the price the team is paying for its request to play more games at home earlier in the season. The thinking was that younger players might be better off getting comfortable in familiar surroundings. The team was over .500 at home prior to the recent slide.

Now, after several frustrating

defeats over the past week (including two shootout losses and a controversial setback in Madison Square Garden) and a listless Monday night performance against Montreal that featured the third-period benching of leading-scorer Alex Ovechkin, the Caps face their toughest challenge.

"We play teams that are so far ahead of us in the standings ... maybe the fear element of being embarrassed will be a motivating factor," Coach Glen Hanlon said.

"A lot of teams have to go away to become close. We don't have those issues here," he added. "We've accomplished a lot of things in the eyes of opposing general managers, players and media, that this is a hard-working team that never gives up. We don't want to take any steps backward in what we've accomplished because we feel as an organization that those are the hardest things to accomplish."

BRIAN STRAUS

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

NHL (7 P.M. ON CSN) The Washington Capitals start a road trip that will last into April against the Florida Panthers.

NBA (8 P.M. AND 10:30 P.M. ON ESPN) The Miami Heat play the Detroit Pistons in a battle of the East's best teams; The San Antonio Spurs visit the Denver Nuggets.

COLLEGE HOOPS (7 P.M. AND 9 P.M. ON ESPN2) Hofstra looks to add to the CAA's glory against Old Dominion in the NIT; Missouri faces Louisville also in the NIT.

SOCCER (2:25 P.M. ON ESPN) The U.S. plays Germany in a friendly pre-World Cup match.

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Confused by our local real estate market? Get the information you need Saturday, March 25 and Sunday, March 26. County by county and ZIP code by ZIP code, facts and articles to help you make sense of it all.

The Washington Post

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LITTLE AL IS BACK: Al Unser Jr., a two-time Indianapolis 500 winner, will end a two-year retirement to drive at the Indianapolis 500 for Dreyer & Reinbold Racing. The 43-year-old retired after 34 wins in a 22-year career.



Sports

Germans Need Morale Boost vs. U.S.

Americans are trying to solidify World Cup roster in exhibition

SOCCKER | It's only an exhibition soccer match, with the undermanned United States squad as the opponent.

Still, Germany is filled with angst.

German fans, stinging from a 4-1 loss to Italy, are antsy heading into Wednesday's World Cup warmup against the Americans. So Germany coach Juergen Klinsmann and his players — who have been heavily criticized on several fronts — are treating the game in bumblebee-colored Signal Iduna Park as more than a prep match.

"It's a very important game for us," said German forward Michael



U.S. soccer player Pablo Mastroeni, left, and teammate Chris Klein practice for Wednesday's friendly match against Germany, still reeling from a 4-1 loss to Italy.

Ballack, who scored the goal that eliminated the United States from the 2002 tournament. "It's a decisive game for our confidence, for the mood in the team."

The United States always has had a tough task in Europe, where the Americans are 0-8 against the big five nations of England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain. They've been outscored 22-3 in those games.

While the Germans need a win, the Americans are motivated to play well as individuals. After this match, just one game remains before Arena picks his 23-man World Cup roster, against Jamaica on April 11 at Cary, N.C.

"Everybody's here to prove that they belong on the World Cup team," midfielder Ben Olsen said.

RONALD BLUM (AP)

Meyer Recalled As Humble Coach

CHICAGO | Former DePaul basketball coach Ray Meyer was remembered at his funeral Tuesday as a hero who inspired young people and remained humble even after becoming a giant of his sport.

A who's-who of basketball greats were among the hundreds of mourners, including Larry Brown, Isiah Thomas and Mark Aguirre, one of Meyer's greatest players at DePaul.

Meyer's son Joey, who followed him as coach of the Blue Demons, referred to his dad as "Coach" while speaking about his legacy. "Seven hundred twenty-four wins, Hall of Fame, four decades, one of the best coaches that has ever coached the game of basketball, and he'll be remembered more for the type of person he was than the coach he was," Joey Meyer said. "I think that speaks volumes about Coach." (AP)

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SAAB STORY: Saab and Opel vehicles will have hybrid drivetrains by the end of the decade, Automotive World reported. The technology is under development and will "fit into the image of the brand," managing director Jan-Ake Jonsson said.

Cars

Suzuki Making a Statement

In a surprising turn, the '06 Grand Vitara is worth consideration

ROAD TEST | To say Suzuki was off the radar would be an understatement. But recently, while watching some important public-affairs programming — perhaps "Skating With Celebrities" — maybe you began seeing commercials for the redesigned 2006 Grand Vitara, a tolerably attractive compact SUV in well-cinched raiments.

Huh, you thought, sagely.

The notion of a Suzuki compact SUV had approximately the allure of tainted tuna. And yet, maybe the new Grand Vitara — with a V6 engine, a new unibody chassis and independent rear suspension, and a seven-year, 100,000-mile warranty — was worth a look.

And, no question, the new Grand Vitara is grander than before. There's extra dimension and a generous list of standard features. With an exterior scrubbed of doofus-ness and an interior laid out in more sophisticated textures and shapes brimming with polished metal bezels and rings, the Suzuki feels like a serious alternative.

The Suzuki is dead in the middle of starter-family territory. The rear seats are spacious and, with the second-set doors swinging wide on their hinges, it appears putting a child seat in would be no problem.



Although previous Suzuki compact SUVs weren't exactly attention-grabbers, the inoffensive 2006 Grand Vitara strikes new ground in terms of, well, acceptability.

If you flip up the rear seat bottoms, drop the 40-20-40 rear seat backs and swing open the rear door on its side hinges, you'll find plenty of cargo hold in the back. Man mall, here we come.

The Grand Vitara offers a fairly stout defense of its off-road credentials. Its conventional unibody construction is undergirded with pickup-style frame rails that, combined with its primarily rear-wheel-drive architecture, give the GV respectable towing capacity and a definite, un-fragile feeling.

However, Suzuki's primary challenge is not to match dinky dirt-dobbers off road but to equal the evolving refinement of family truck-lettes.

In this, the Suzuki largely succeeds.

The powertrain is generally quite civil and well isolated from

2006 SUZUKI GRAND VITARA

- **POWERTRAIN:** 2.7-liter DOHC V6, five-speed automatic transmission, full-time all-wheel drive
- **WHEELBASE:** 103.9 inches
- **LENGTH:** 176.0 inches
- **WEIGHT:** 3,682 pounds
- **HORSEPOWER:** 185 at 6,000 rpm
- **TORQUE:** 184 pound-feet at 4,500 rpm
- **0-60 MPH:** 9 seconds
- **MILEAGE:** 19 miles per gallon city, 23 highway
- **PRICE:** \$19,199

the cabin, though it doesn't have quite a whiskey-smooth burr or much punch. When you go to the whip as you might on a freeway onramp, the engine does get a bit fractious, and you can feel the weight of the vehicle sagging against gravity. Once up to speed,

the engine's reluctance dissipates and the engine hums along cooperatively.

In the aural and tactile clues of quality — the amount of vibration through the steering column, the degree of sound-deadening in doors and around windows, the tightness and lack of play in controls, in all these areas — the Suzuki feels as sound as the yen.

There are no squeaks, rattles, moans or twitters anywhere — don't you hate twitters? As for ride compliance, the Grand Vitara is only average, maybe a little less. Despite the extra wheelbase, it tends to collect a rhythmic choppiness over broken pavement.

By no means a driver's vehicle, the Grand Vitara corners predictably — it will probably sway like a schooner — and changes direction tolerably well. That said, no one will be tempted to feel out the limits of handling and grip. It's just not that kind of car.

What kind of car then? In the language of marketers, the Suzuki is all about the value statement — that is, how much truck for the buck. Anti-lock brakes and stability control are standards, as are an MP3-compatible CD player, six air bags, air conditioning and power amenities, including three power outlets.

This is obviously an intelligently designed and capable machine.

DAN NEIL (LOS ANGELES TIMES)



LIVE ONLINE

Car Care

Automotive expert **PAT GOSS** owns Pat Goss Car World, Inc., a local car repair company. He chats monthly on washingtonpost.com/cars.

My brakes squeal as I come to a stop. Does this indicate a problem?

It doesn't mean anything except the brakes need to be checked. Whenever there is ANY change in the way brakes feel or sound, they need to be checked immediately.

When I get oil changes, the dealership fills the oil past not only the full line, but also the maximum indicator. Is too much oil harmful?

Too much oil can be very harmful. Under certain conditions, it could destroy the engine.

How much should a timing belt replacement really cost?

A timing belt, a water pump, fresh coolant, possibly seals on the crankshaft and camshaft, and idler and tensioner pulleys should cost between \$800 and \$1,200.

What are the symptoms of a failing water pump?

Rumbling noises, coolant leakage, and looseness in the water pump bearings.

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GIT ALONG: Universal wants as many people as possible to see 2005's cinematic and social sensation "Brokeback Mountain," even if that means bringing the movie to the masses. The film will be available on DVD as of April 4, while it's still in theaters.



Entertainment

Fame, Fate and Kate

Evangeline Lilly had given up acting — then she got 'Lost'

RISE STARS | To hear Evangeline Lilly talk, her path to stardom as fugitive Kate on the hit series "Lost" was almost beyond her control.

While enrolled at Vancouver's University of British Columbia just a few years ago, the Alberta, Canada, native was a budding actress pulling in good money doing TV commercials. Until Lilly, unhappy with acting, bailed out.

Then, in a bizarre display of self-demotion, she happily took work as a movie extra. Never mind the pay was a fraction of what she made before; more to the point, she didn't like modeling and acting in commercials.

As Lilly tells it, she finally saw the light when a friend observed how "you claim to believe in destiny, and yet you're ignoring what appears to be all the signs of destiny."

In January 2004, she went on the first of a couple dozen auditions.

"By March, I was in Hawaii filming the 'Lost' pilot."

There, to her surprise, she fell in love with acting. But she also learned that, on "Lost," it wouldn't



DESTINY LOVES COMPANY: Lilly had forsaken auditions for extra parts and school when she tried out for "Lost" at the urging of friends. Now she's on a hit show.

just be viewers who were challenged by the mystery and myth. With a tale this complicated, murky and piecemeal, even the actors are often forced to play a guessing game.

"The first year was very hard," Lilly said. Besides suffering an identity crisis with her role, "I was surrounded by breathtaking actors, and I felt very insecure about performing next to them."

She was part of a cast that also included Matthew Fox, Josh Holloway — both playing characters Kate has had flirtations with — and dozens more regulars, like veteran actor Terry O'Quinn who, as the mystical Locke, declared, "Each one of us was brought here for a reason."

Unconsciously echoing him, Lilly now recalls, "The first year I just kept thinking, 'Well, there has to be a point, a reason I'm here. Otherwise, it wouldn't have happened the way it happened: in such a magical and spontaneous way.'"

But although she likes this new life, it may not be forever.

"I don't know how long my career will last," she said. "As far as how long my nerves can hold out, I would say I give myself 10 years, and if I don't get out by then, they'll be shattered." **FRAZIER MOORE (AP)**

Today's Top Stops

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Dinosaur Jr.'s J Mascis pounds the drums for his sludgy new band, Witch.

Witch: Beguiling Doom

I Witch has a head start on stardom: J "Dinosaur Jr." Mascis plays drums (remarkably well) for 'em. Additionally, the band has a marketable sound: Call them a better version of Black Sabbath. Local hard-rock heroes Woolly Mammoth open.

Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW; 9 p.m. \$10; 202-667-7960. (U St.-Cardozo)

Kimora Simmons: Brave New Words

2 What is "Fabulosity"? It's a quality of and a book by urban-fashion entrepreneur and hot momma Kimora Lee Simmons, who will share her tips on the f-word from "Fabulosity: What It Is and How to Get It" tonight.

Borders, 931A Capital Centre Blvd., Largo; 7 p.m., free; 301-499-2173.

Robert Bechtle: So Real You Can Touch It

3 Painter Robert Bechtle's brilliant photorealist work shines a slick, eerie light on the California car culture of the 1960s. Tour the Bechtle exhibit tonight after a curator's talk.

Corcoran, 500 17th St. NW; 7 p.m., \$15; 202-639-1700. (Farragut West)

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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A Poet's Wicked Ways

A film explores the life of L.A. writer Charles Bukowski

DVD | "Bukowski: Born Into This" explores the life and legacy of the hard-drinking, enormously prolific novelist and poet Charles Bukowski, whose blunt way with words inspired artists from David Lynch to U2's Bono.

First-time director John Dullaghan does an admirable job of weaving together the contradictory

characteristics that made the man who he was. It's an intimate portrait, almost uncomfortably so.

Those unfamiliar with Bukowski or his work should find this film a fascinating introduction. Fans will appreciate the ample extras that accompany the doc on DVD. Those include several poems from a forthcoming posthumous collection of Bukowski's work, comments from a woman in the author's seemingly

The iconic Los Angeles tough-guy writer had a taste for the beautiful.



endless parade of lovers; extended interviews with sources who appear in the film and more.

"Bukowski" is not for everyone. Some find the writer's obsessions with alcohol, sex and gambling off-putting, even in light of his difficult childhood and unquestionable devotion to his work. But it's impossible to leave the film without feeling some respect for the man because, in the end, writing was the one addiction he couldn't bear to kick.

MOST POETIC BONUS POINT: Bono and Tom Waits each read one of Bukowski's poems, imbuing his words with their own iconic voices. **JEN CHANEY (WASHINGTONPOST.COM)**

Entertainment



BAD EXAMPLE: That big lug Brad Garrett ("Everybody Loves Raymond") has landed a starring role in a Fox comedy pilot. "Til Death" is about newlyweds who move next door to a couple of old marrieds. Joely Fisher, 38, plays Garrett's wife.

It's Hard for a Chimp

Sega's obstacle game is a case of 'Monkey' see, 'Monkey' don't

VIDEO GAMES | A video game like "Super Monkey Ball: Touch & Roll" would seem to be a natural fit for the handheld Nintendo DS and its touch-sensitive controls. The whole point, after all, is to tap the lower screen and nudge a monkey (who's trapped in a clear, plastic ball, of course) through various mazes and obstacles.

But someone over at Sega in America apparently doesn't want this \$29.99 title to be very fun — the controls are that bad.

It's a real shame, considering how



BANANA PURSUIT: The star simian in "Super Monkey Ball" is nuts for bananas.

the excellent controls of the original arcade version and the subsequent Nintendo GameCube edition made

simians trapped in spheres such a quirky, fun phenomenon when it debuted few years ago.

If you've ever played one of those old-fashioned wooden mazes where you pivot the board around to guide a metal ball from one end to the other, you get the gist of "Monkey Balls" — sans the banana-collecting.

But it's too easy to overcompensate and roll the monkey ball in the wrong direction, which often ends up tipping your monkey ball into the sea below. It's especially tough on some of the levels where there are moving ramps and pathways that undulate like some sort of serpentine escalator.

After a dozen restarts, entertainment will give way to outright annoyance.

MATT SLAGLE (AP)

How Much For a Chevy Like Earl's?

SPEND MORE | A new Web site could carry the art of product placement on TV to dizzying levels. The site, StarStyle, allows fans of shows including "American Idol" and "What I Like About You" to buy clothing, furniture and other items they see on the programs, Entertainment Media Works said Monday.

The site allows visitors to shop by show, product category or brand name. They can pick a character and StarStyle will display associated products that can be purchased through links. "You like the couch that people are arguing on on 'Real World,' you can buy it," said a company spokesman. (AP)

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20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#

V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG ★ (1200 100 150 315 415 500) 700 730 800 1010 1030

FIND ME GUILTY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1210 330) 715 1015

SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (1205 230 505) 740 1010

HILLS HAVE EYES, THE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (130 220 420 515) 725 800 1000

SHAGGY DOG, THE (PG) DIG (1200 115 245 415 510) 700 745 930 1015

FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (1205 100 240 400 500) 720 750 950 1020

ULTRAVIOLET (PG-13) DIG (930)

16 BLOCKS (PG-13) DIG (120 410) 720 1020

MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13) DIG (1230 350) 710 1005

PINK PANTHER, THE (PG) DIG (1250 340) 650

UK SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14

9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#

Adv. Tix on Sale AN AWESOME NIGHT WITH BEASTIE

BOYS (R) - ID REQ'D ★ (1230 315) 700 1005

Adv. Tix on Sale DCI CLASSIC COUNTDOWN (NCM EVENT) (NR) ★

FIND ME GUILTY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1230 315) 700 1005

SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (130 415) 715 950

V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG ★ (1230 100 130 330 400 445) 645 720 800 1000

HILLS HAVE EYES, THE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (145 430) 745 1015

SHAGGY DOG, THE (PG) DIG (200 445) 730 1010

FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (115 400) 730 1010

LIBERTINE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1245 330) 645 930

AQUAMARINE (PG) DIG (1245 315) 630

16 BLOCKS (PG-13) DIG (205 500) 800 1020

MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13) DIG (145 500) 745 1015

EIGHT BELOW (PG) DIG (115 415) 700 940

FIREWALL (PG-13) DIG (1020)

PINK PANTHER, THE (PG) DIG (915)

SHAGGY DOG (DTS-CSS/ OPEN CAPTION) (PG) DIG (100) 630

MANASSAS STADIUM 14

11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#

Adv. Tix on Sale AN AWESOME NIGHT WITH BEASTIE

BOYS (R) - ID REQ'D ★ (1200 1230 100 330 400 430) 630 700 740 930 1005 1030

V FOR VENDETTA (R) - ID REQ'D DIG ★ (120 405) 735 1025

FIND ME GUILTY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1140 210 450) 720 945

SHE'S THE MAN (PG-13) DIG (110 415) 800 1035

HILLS HAVE EYES, THE (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1130 1220 200 300 440) 620 725 915 950

FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG-13) DIG (1135 1215 150 345 420) 640 745 910 1000

AQUAMARINE (PG) DIG (140 410) 650 920

ULTRAVIOLET (PG-13) DIG (455) 1015

16 BLOCKS (PG-13) DIG (100 350) 725 950

MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG-13) DIG (1150 220 445) 710 925

PINK PANTHER, THE (PG) DIG (1145 225) 750

Times For 3/22/06 Daily Bargain Matinees In () OC= Open Captioned DA= Descriptive Audio Available * Pass / Discount Ticket Restrictions Apply ©2006

Matinee price for all shows Fri-Sun & holidays before 4PM and Mon-Thurs before 6PM.
Advanced Ticketing available at MovieWatcher.com or (816) 363-4AMC. R-Rating requires ID.
CC - Closed Captioning · DV - Descriptive Video Service · OC - Open Captioning

AMC HOFFMANN CENTER 22
Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

FIND ME GUILTY (R) ✓ 1:45, 4:35, 7:30, 10:35
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:05, 4:35, 7:25, 10:00
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 1:00, 1:40, 2:20, 4:10, 4:40, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 8:30, 10:20
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 2:15, 3:15, 4:45, 5:45, 7:15, 8:15, 9:45
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:00, 4:30, 6:15, 7:10, 9:00, 9:40
THE LIBERTINE (R) 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:30, 2:30, 4:10, 5:00, 6:45, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 1:25, 3:05, 4:25, 5:55, 7:35, 8:25, 10:10
AQUAMARINE (PG) 2:15, 5:20, 7:55
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 1:00, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 2:20, 5:10, 7:40, 9:55
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 1:05, 2:00, 3:40, 4:40, 7:20
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 10:30 PM
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 2:30, 5:25, 8:10
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 2:30
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 10:25 PM
FIREWALL (PG13) 5:05, 7:50, 10:30
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 1:05, 3:20, 5:40, 8:20

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:15, 5:00, 8:30
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 1:30, 4:40, 8:00
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 1:45, 4:50, 8:45
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 5:20, 8:30
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:00, 4:30, 7:45
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 5:00, 8:15
AQUAMARINE (PG) 4:40, 7:45
AQUAMARINE (PG) 4:40, 7:45
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 5:10, 8:45
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 4:50, 8:10
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 4:30, 7:30

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

FIND ME GUILTY (R) ✓ 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55
THE LIBERTINE (R) 2:15, 5:20, 8:15
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 2:20, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 9:50 PM
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:30, 4:50, 7:30
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:30, 4:50, 7:30
MATCH POINT (R) 2:50, 5:40, 8:35

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14
3111 K Street, N.W.
202-342-6441 821

FIND ME GUILTY (R) ✓ 1:00, 4:05, 6:55, 9:35
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 9:50
THANK YOU FOR SMOKING (R) ✓ 12:30, 2:10, 3:10, 4:30, 6:50, 7:40, 9:10, 10:10
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 12:50, 1:50, 4:00, 4:50, 7:00, 7:55, 10:00, 10:55
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 12:40, 2:30, 3:20, 5:00, 5:40, 7:10, 8:00, 9:30, 10:20
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40
THE LIBERTINE (R) 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:30, 4:10, 6:45
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 1:40, 4:35, 7:05, 9:25
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 2:30, 5:20, 8:10, 10:40
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 9:00 PM
SYRIANA (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30

LOEWS WISCONSIN AVE. 6
4000 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
202-244-0882 714

FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 2:05, 4:30, 7:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 1:50, 4:20, 7:00
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:00, 4:15, 6:50
AQUAMARINE (PG) 2:15, 4:35, 7:05
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 2:20, 4:40, 7:15
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 2:10, 4:10
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 6:20

LOEWS WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda
310-423-1014 741

V FOR VENDETTA (R) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 2:10, 4:45, 7:30
THE LIBERTINE (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:15
MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 2:05, 4:30, 7:00
TRANSAMERICA (R) 2:15, 4:30, 7:10

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

FIND ME GUILTY (R) ✓ 1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 9:45
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:20, 7:00, 8:20, 9:55
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 1:10, 1:40, 3:25, 4:20, 5:45, 7:10, 8:30, 9:20
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
THE LIBERTINE (R) 1:20, 4:05, 7:05, 9:50
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 1:05, 2:05, 3:20, 4:25, 5:35, 7:00, 8:00, 9:10
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 2:25, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
AQUAMARINE (PG) 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 7:45, 10:00
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 1:45, 4:55, 7:20, 9:30
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 1:55, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:30, 9:25
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 1:35, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 1:25, 3:35, 5:40
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:20, 4:35, 7:25, 9:30

AMC RIVERTOWNE 12
Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd.
703-998-4AMC

V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 4:40, 7:40
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 5:20, 8:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 4:50, 7:30
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 5:10, 7:50
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 5:10, 8:00
AQUAMARINE (PG) 4:10, 7:20
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 5:00, 7:50
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 4:50, 7:20
DOOGAL (G) 4:20
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 4:40, 5:20, 7:40, 8:20
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 4:30, 7:30
BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE 2 (PG13) 7:10

AMC UNION STATION 9
Located at Union Station
703-998-4AMC

SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:00, 4:45, 7:45
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 2:30, 5:55, 8:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:05, 4:25, 7:05
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:20, 5:15, 7:50
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:20, 5:15, 7:50
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 2:15, 4:50, 7:30
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 7:10
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 2:35, 4:35, 7:20
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:40
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 2:45, 5:00

AMC COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6
Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68.
703-998-4AMC

V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 5:00, 5:30, 8:00, 8:30
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 5:45, 8:10
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 5:15, 7:50
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 5:45, 8:10
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 8:20
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 5:55

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12
800 Shopper's Way, Largo
301-324-4220 844

V FOR VENDETTA (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10:30
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 3:20, 5:40, 8:05, 10:25
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 1:40, 4:15, 7:10, 9:35
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 1:20, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 2:30, 4:50, 7:05, 9:20
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 2:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:40
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 1:50, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 3:10, 5:25, 8:10, 10:20

LOEWS SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph
703-671-0910 801

NIGHT WATCH (R) 1:20, 4:40, 7:50, 10:10
MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 9:30
THE THREE BURIALS OF MELQUIADES ESTRADA (R) 1:10, 3:50, 7:40, 10:00
MATCH POINT (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40
TRANSAMERICA (R) 1:40, 4:20, 8:00, 10:10
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40
CAPOTE (R) 1:50, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

LOEWS DUPONT 5
1350 19th St.
202-872-9555 711

DUCK SEASON (R) 5:15, 8:30
WINTER PASSING (R) 8:10
MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS (R) 5:45
WHY WE FIGHT (PG13) 5:30, 8:15
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 4:45, 7:45
CAPOTE (R) 5:00, 8:00

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:00
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 12:10, 1:15, 2:15, 3:15, 4:20, 5:20, 6:20, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30
V FOR VENDETTA (R) 2:15, 5:20, 8:30
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) ✓ 12:05, 1:05, 2:25, 3:30, 4:50, 5:50, 7:20, 8:15, 9:40, 10:35
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) ✓ 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20
THE LIBERTINE (R) ✓ 1:00, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) ✓ 12:15, 1:30, 2:40, 4:10, 5:30, 7:00, 7:55, 9:25, 10:15
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 9:45
AQUAMARINE (PG) 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 12:40, 3:10, 5:35, 8:00, 10:25
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 1:25, 3:40, 5:50, 8:05, 10:15
FIREWALL (PG13) 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:10, 10:35
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:50

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
410-423-0520

FIND ME GUILTY (R) ✓ 1:15, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55
SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 12:25, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:30
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:15, 8:15, 10:10
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) ✓ 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) ✓ 12:00, 2:35, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30
THE LIBERTINE (R) ✓ 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:05
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) ✓ 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05, 10:25
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:50, 10:20
AQUAMARINE (PG) 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25
AQUAMARINE (PG) 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 1:55, 4:50, 7:25, 9:50
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 9:45
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
FIREWALL (PG13) 10:15 PM
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 12:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:45

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 2:10, 4:50, 7:30
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 2:40, 5:10, 8:00
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 3:00, 5:25, 7:50
FIREWALL (PG13) 3:10, 5:50, 8:20
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 2:50, 5:00, 7:40
TRANSAMERICA (R) 2:30, 5:40, 8:10
MUNICH (R) 2:00, 5:20, 8:40
THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA (PG) 2:20, 5:30, 8:30

LOEWS WHEATON PLAZA 11
Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University
901-949-9202 746

SHE'S THE MAN (PG13) ✓ 4:20, 7:15, 9:40
V FOR VENDETTA (R) ✓ 4:05, 7:00, 10:00
FAILURE TO LAUNCH (PG13) 4:50, 7:25, 9:35
THE HILLS HAVE EYES (R) 4:30, 7:30, 9:50
THE SHAGGY DOG (PG) 5:00, 7:25, 9:40
16 BLOCKS (PG13) 4:10, 7:15, 9:50
AQUAMARINE (PG) 4:45, 7:35, 9:55
AQUAMARINE (PG) 4:45, 7:35, 9:55
DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY (R) 4:15, 7:10, 9:30
ULTRAVIOLET (PG13) 4:40, 8:00, 10:10
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 4:20, 7:20, 9:45
THE PINK PANTHER (PG) 5:10, 7:15, 9:20

LOEWS FAIRFAX SQUARE 8
8065 Leesburg Pike
703-506-9857 802

FIND ME GUILTY (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION (PG13) 2:30, 5:10, 7:25, 9:45
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 2:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:20
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 1:50, 4:20, 7:15, 9:40
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 2:20, 4:45
FINAL DESTINATION 3 (R) 9:30 PM
MUNICH (R) 1:40, 5:00, 8:30
MUNICH (R) 1:40, 5:00, 8:30
MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA (PG13) 7:50
BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN (R) 2:00, 5:05, 8:00
CAPOTE (R) 2:15, 4:40, 7:05

LOEWS UPTOWN 1
3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
202-966-5400 713

V FOR VENDETTA (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10

Times for Wednesday, March 22, 2006

PhD in Public Policy Information Session

*Wednesday, March 29, 7 p.m.
Fairfax Campus, Finley Building, Room 119*

Study with world-renowned scholars at one of the nation's leading schools of Public Policy. Join us in an environment that encourages discussion and nourishes ideas. Apply to the School of Public Policy and work with some of the pre-eminent Washington, D.C. area scholars and policymakers. Our program is small enough to offer you an individual experience and large enough to be distinguished! Attend an information session and apply now.

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SHE WOULD KNOW: "The Bernie Mac Show" is piling up guest stars in April, hosting Serena Williams — she'll give Bernie advice on handling his wife's sisterly rivalry. Onetime Kevin Federline and Quentin Tarantino paramour Shar Jackson also quests.

NBC's 'Heist' shows cops and robbers are brothers with arms

A black and white photograph of a man in a suit, holding a handgun and looking intensely at the camera. He is standing next to a car, with a city building in the background.

gion and philosophy as they crack safes. Their parallel cop duo (Reno Wilson and Billy Gardell) makes “Lethal Weapon” references when not baiting each other about race, weight and ethnicity.

With a complex story and so many characters willing to talk about their flaws, "Heist" demands your attention. NBC is certainly banking on viewers to stick around for its 13-week run. After all, it has been given the traditional "Law & Order" time slot. KEVIN MCDONOUGH
(UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

CSI: STUFF

SEAL UP THE BUNKER; PROBLEM SOLVED. MONEY SAVED.

'TRY THAT CRANE SHOT AGAIN'
BONES (8 p.m., Fox) A filmmaker's fatal shoot.



KITTEN WITH A WHIP

An aggressively amoral vixen pursues a rich, married doctor in the British comedy **NIGHTY NIGHT** (10 p.m., Oxygen). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

	3:22:06	6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
WRC	4	News		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Deal or No Deal (N) ♀		Law & Order "America, Inc." (N) ♀		Heist "Pilot" (Series Premiere) (N) ♀		News	Tonight Show	
	WTTG	5	Seinfeld ♀	The Simpsons ♀	The Simpsons ♀	Seinfeld ♀	Bones "The Woman in the Tunnel" (N)	American Idol	(32) Unanimous	News		Geraldo at Large	Friends ♀	
	WJLA	6	News	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	George Lopez (N)	Freddie (N) ♀	Lost "The Whole Truth" (N) ♀	(01) The Evidence "Pilot" ♀		News	(35) Nightline	
	WUSA	7	News	CBS News	9News Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Out of Practice ♀	Courting Alex (N)	Criminal Minds "A Real Rain" (N) ♀	CSI: NY "Necrophilia Americana" ♀		News	Late Show	
	WDCA	20	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Friends ♀	Every-Raymond	America's Next Top Model (N) ♀		Veronica Mars (N) ♀	The Tyra Banks Show Mary J. Blige.		Girlfriends ♀	Girlfriends ♀	
	WMPT	22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	Artworks-Week	Nova Life in the universe. ♀		Exploring Space: The Quest for Life Computer-animated deep-space imagery.			Frontline "From China With Love" ♀		
	WETA	20	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Member's Favorites							
	WHUT	32	Business Schl	Tavis Smiley ♀	BBC World News	Moneywise	P.O.V. "A Panther in Africa" ♀		Raising Up: Women of India ♀		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley ♀	Charlie Rose (N) ♀	
WBDC	50	Steve Harvey	The Parkers ♀	My Wife and Kids	Bernie Mac	One Tree Hill ♀		Gilmore Girls ♀		Bernie Mac	My Wife and Kids	Sex and the City	Will & Grace	
A&E		American Justice "A Warrant to Kill"		Cold Case Files ♀		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Inked ♀	Inked ♀	Spying on Myself	Spying on Myself	Crossing Jordan "Lies I Hat Blind" ♀		
	Animal		The Crocodile Hunter ♀		The Most Extreme "Appendages"	Animal Report	Funniest Animals	Little Zoo That Could (N)		Animal Cops Detroit "Juvenile Crime"		Animal Report	Funniest Animals	
	BET		106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		Access Granted	The Parkers ♀	The Parkers ♀	Girlfriends ♀	Girlfriends ♀	Comicview		In Living Color ♀	In Living Color ♀	
	Bravo		Top Chef Sensual and erotic recipes.		The West Wing "The Short List" ♀	Blow Out ♀		Top Chef Sensual and erotic recipes.		Top Chef Cooking with octopus. (N)		Top Chef Cooking with octopus.		
	Comedy	(5:00) *** "Keeping the Faith" (2000) Ben Stiller. ♀			Reno 911! ♀	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Chappelle's Show	South Park ♀	South Park ♀	Mind of Mencia	Daily Show	Colbert Report	
	Court		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Cops ♀	Cops ♀	The World's Scariest Police Stings		Forensic Files (N)	Forensic Files	Psychic Detect	Psychic Detect	Las Vegas Law	Parco P.I.
	Discovery		Cash Cab ♀	Cash Cab ♀	Extreme Engineering ♀		Everything You Need to Know		MythBusters "Exploding Jawbreaker"		Everything You Need to Know (N)		Dirty Jobs ♀	
	DISCH		Paramedics "Dream World" ♀		Trauma: Life in the ER ♀		Rebuilt: The Human Body Shop (N)		Plastic Surgery: Before and After		Super Obese ♀		Rebuilt: The Human Body Shop	
	Disney		Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Phil of the Future	That's So Raven	"Twitches" (2005, Fantasy) Tia Mowry. Reunited twins use magic against evil.		Life With Derek	Even Stevens		Zack & Cody	That's So Raven	
	E!		10 Ways	The Simple Life 2	E! News (N)	E! News	Dr. 90210 "Model Madness"		Tori Spelling Hollywood Story		The Simple Life 2	The Simple Life 2	Saturday Night Live Garth Brooks. ♀	
	FX		King of the Hill ♀	King of the Hill ♀	That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Cops ♀	Cops "Boston"	Cops ♀	Cops "Atlanta" ♀	Cops "Atlanta" ♀	Black. White. (N)		(04) Black. White.
	HGTV		Renovation	Wknd Warriors	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	I Want Baths	I Want Kitchen	I Want That!		House Hunters	What You Get	Drain House	FreeStyle.
	Family		7th Heaven "Parents" ♀		*** "The Parent Trap" (1998) Lindsay Lohan. Reunited twin girls try to get their parents back together. ♀				Whose Line?	Whose Line?		The 700 Club ♀		
	History		Napoleon: Rule Europe		Modern Marvels: Disaster Technology	Modern Marvels: Trucks ♀	Modern Marvels: Failed Inventions		Marvels: Engineering Disasters 19		Incredible But True? ♀			
	Lifetima		The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	"Every 9 Seconds" (1991, Drama) Amy Pietz, Gail O'Grady. ♀		*** "Another Woman's Husband" (2000) Lisa Rinna, Gail O'Grady. ♀		Will & Grace	Will & Grace				
	MTV		Parental Control	Made ♀	Direct Effect ♀		Room Raiders ♀	Date My Mom ♀	8th & Ocean ♀	8th & Ocean ♀	8th & Ocean ♀	Spring Break	Super Sweet 21	Parental Control
NICK		Ned's School	Danny Phantom	Fairly Oddparent's	Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob	All Grown Up ♀	TV Land Awards 2006 Television history. (N) ♀				Roseanne ♀	The Cosby Show	
SCI FI		Stargate SG-1 "Legacy" ♀		Ghost Hunters California haunts. ♀		Ghost Hunters ♀		Ghost Hunters ♀		Ghost Hunters Halloween Special ♀		*** "Flatliners" (1990) ♀		
SPIKE		World's Wildest Police Videos ♀		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation ♀		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation ♀		*** "Pushing Tin" (1999) John Cusack. Rivalry escalates between two air traffic controllers.				MXC ♀		
TBS		Seinfeld ♀	Seinfeld ♀	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	(15) *** "The Birdcage" (1996)		
TLC		Martha Davis Roberts; cooking school.		Inside Supermax		City Cops "Back Streets of Vegas"		U.S. Marshals: The Real Story ♀		The Repossessors 2 ♀		City Cops "Back Streets of Vegas"		
TNT		Charmed "All Halliwell's Eve" ♀		Law & Order "Mother's Day" ♀		Law & Order "Bounty" ♀ (DVS)		*** "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" (2000) George Clooney. ♀		*** "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"		*** "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"		
USA		(5:00) *** "Intolerable Cruelty"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit ♀		Law & Order: Criminal Intent ♀		Law & Order: Criminal Intent ♀		Law & Order: Criminal Intent ♀		Law & Order: Criminal Intent ♀		
VH1		Behind the Music Kid Rock. ♀		2006 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Induction. ♀				Most Wanted Bodies Fitness. ♀		The Surreal Life "Movin' On In" ♀		Driven "Green Day" Green Day. ♀		
TELEM		Sala de Parejas	Noti-Telemndo	La Tormenta		Tierra de Pasiones		Corazon Partido	Decisiones	Decisiones		Noti-Telemndo	Fútbol	
	UNIV	Que Locura	Noticiero Univ	Peregrina		Barrera de Amor		Alborada		Don Francisco Presenta		Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.	
ESPN		SportsCenter (Live) ♀		NBA Shootaround		NBA Basketball Miami Heat at Detroit Pistons. (S Live) ♀				NBA Basketball San Antonio Spurs at Denver Nuggets.				
	ESPN2	Mike and Mike	Around the Horn	College Basketball NIT Tournament Quarterfinal - Teams TBA. (Live) ♀		College Basketball NIT Tournament Quarterfinal - Teams TBA. (Live) ♀				Quite Frankly With Stephen A. Smith				
	CSN	Chris Myers	SportsNite ♀	NHL Hockey Washington Capitals at Florida Panthers. (Live)		Caps Postgame		SportsNite (Live) ♀		Maryland		Best-Sports		
CNN		Lou Dobbs Tonight ♀		The Situation Room		Paula Zahn Now ♀		Larry King Live ♀		Anderson Cooper 360 ♀				
	FNC	Special Report (Live) ♀		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live) ♀		Hannity & Colmes (Live) ♀		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report		Hardball ♀		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Rita Cosby Live & Direct		Scarborough Country		The Situation With Tucker Carlson		
AMC		*** "Arachnophobia" (1990, Horror) Jeff Daniels. 'PG-13' ♀				*** "Uncommon Valor" (1983, Drama) Gene Hackman, Fred Ward. 'R' ♀		(15) *** "The Big Red One" (1980, Adventure) Lee Marvin. 'PG' ♀						
	TCM		*** "Hot Millions" (1968, Comedy) Peter Ustinov, Maggie Smith. 'G' ♀			*** "The Out-of-Towners" (1970, Comedy) Jack Lemmon. Premiere. 'G'		*** "Plaza Suite" (1971, Comedy) Walter Matthau. Premiere. 'PG-13'						
	HBO	(15) *** "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story" (2004) Vince Vaughn. ♀				Big Love "Viagra Blue" ♀		The Sopranos "Join the Club" ♀		*** "White Noise" (2005) Michael Keaton. ♀ 'PG-13' ♀		Making Big Love		
	MAX	(4:50) "The Day After Tomorrow" ♀		*** "30 Pounds of Love" (2006)		(15) *** "Major League II" (1994, Comedy) Charlie Sheen. ♀ 'PG' ♀		*** "Son of the Mask" (2005) Jamie Kennedy. 'PG' ♀				Hotel Erotica		
	SHOW		*** "Timeline" (2008, Adventure) Paul Walker. iTV. ♀ 'PG-13' ♀			*** "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow" (2004) Gwyneth Paltrow.		The L Word "Last Dance" (iTV) ♀		Evolution-Sport		All We Are Saying		
	TMC	(4:40) Triggermen	(20) *** "Crime Spree" (2003) Gérard Depardieu. ♀ 'R'			*** "The Crying Game" (1992, Suspense) Stephen Rea. ♀ 'R'		*** "Pulp Fiction" (1994, Crime Drama) John Travolta. ♀ 'R' ♀				*** "Armageddon" (1998) Bruce Willis.		
STARZ!	(5:30) *** "Darkness" (2002) 'PG-13'		(05) *** "Friday Night Lights" (2004) Billy Bob Thornton. ♀ 'PG-13' ♀		(10) *** "Mr. 3000" (2004, Comedy) Bernie Mac. ♀ 'PG-13' ♀									
ENCORE	(15) ***** "Driving Miss Daisy" (1989) Morgan Freeman. ♀ 'PG' ♀				*** "Wimbledon" (2001) Kirsten Dunst. ♀ 'PG-13' ♀		(15) ***** "The Best Man" (1999, Comedy-Drama) Taye Diggs. Nia Long. ♀ 'R' ♀							

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NE—rms in shrd hse, 2 furn rms for rent, nr metro, \$600/mo, unfurn bsmt \$700/mo. 240-841-9275

NE/SE—1BR, 1BR w/Den & 2BR. \$675 + up + elec. No pets. Call 202-265-4814 or 202-889-4083.

Fred A. Smith Co.

NE/Simms Pl—1BR, \$720+utils. Sect 8 welc. OSP. Call 202-494-7708

NE-TH, 2BR, 2½BA, CAC/heat. \$1800. 301-879-7616

NE/Woodridge—Lg. 2BR/lg. EIK. Utl. incl \$1100 mo. Bettie 301-464-3654

NW **\$1100/mo.**

MOVE IN SPECIAL

1BR Bsmt, CAC, W/D. 202-391-5154

NW/2500 Q ST. APT 442 - \$1500/MO.

Open fir plan, 1BR, just redecoreated. Beautiful floors, on quiet side of bldg. Margaret, 301-773-0226.

NW—Artsy loft space in DC. Eleg 2BR, 1BA loft in highly desirable area w/ soaring 18ft ceilings, renov kit & BA, A/C, W/D & plenty of closet space, wlk to Metro, shps & theaters, enjoy outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts & pvt. garden. \$2250/mo. Call 703-400-9583 or e-mail: smarefat@mac.com

NW—Our 62+ community is opening the waitlist for all apartment types (Eff, 1BR, 2Bdr) priced from \$628-\$967. All utilities included. Please apply in person Mon-Fri, 9-5, at 1616 Marion Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001.EHO

OKAION—Spac. 2BR Condo 1 Exit from Nutley Metro. sunrm. pool. Avail May 1. \$1350. Call 703-203-2138

OWINGS MILL—3 lvs, 3BR, 2FBA 1 HBA, bsmt, deck, storage, wash/dry, \$1800. 301-653-2529

OXON HILL—3BR/1½BA 4-lvl SFH w/back yard. \$1675. **703-296-9975**

OXON HILL(BIRCHWOOD)—Completely renov brk rmr. 5BR 2BA sep. in-law suite, CAC, gorgous sunrm, details merrimartproperties.com \$2145 240-882-7666

OXON HILL **EHO**

Studio fr \$670 1BRs fr \$750
2 BRs fr \$870 3BRs fr \$1120

5% Military & Fed Gov't Discount, Instant Approvals/ Move-ins, Plush Carpet, Central Air/Heat, Free after-school program, Metro Access. *Restrictions apply.

PARK FOREST 625 Audrey Lane 800-880-3923

PIMMIT HILLS/FALLS CHURCH

Newly renovated. 3BR, 1BA, 202-256-4800

RESTON/\$1190—Brand new lg. 1BR condo right across from Reston Town Center. All utils. paid except elec. 202-441-2777.

RESTON/CLOSE TO RESTON TOWN CTR, TOLL RD-LOCATION! LOCATION! Beautiful, recently renovated 2BR 1BA Condo. many upgrades. Balcony overlooks trees. \$1490 incl gas for heat & hot water! Avail 4/1. 703-298-6444, Agent, Weichert Realtors.

Riggs Pk/Takoma—4 BR, 2 BA, off st prkg, April 1. \$2400. 202-269-6244.

ROCKV/DERWOOD—Lux TH 3BR 3½BA. 3 levels. living room. formal dining room. fpl. eat-in kitchen. pvt deck. w/d. fin bsmt. \$1975/mo. 949-322-7182

ROCKVILLE—1BR condo, ground lvl w/ patio, upgraded, 1 mi to Metrorail, 1 blk to bus, shopping. Avail Feb 1st, park 20 ft from dr. Wonderful neighborhood. Clean, quiet, wooded, secluded. \$1095 Call 301-641-8985

SE—1 BR from \$705-\$760; 1 BR + Den \$770. W/W cpt, wlk in clst, blcny, Off st Pkng, Walk to Green Line Metro. Please Call 202-652-3200

SE/13th St —2BR, w-w cpt, cac, \$750. Call 202-388-3900.

SE/2824 Buena Vista Terr—Newly renov. 4-unit bldg, 5-BR 2-BA, 4-BR 2-BA, and 2-0R 1-BA. Ea. unit has W/D, CAC, everything is new! Section 8 OK. 202-437-7565

SE—3BR, w/w carpeting, \$1000+utils. 202-388-3900

S.E. 5312 E ST. —1 & 2BR apts avail. \$650-\$740. 202-581-2500

SE, DC/5049 D ST—Lge 2 & 3BR apts. Wlkin closet. Newly enov! Free pkg! Laundry facility. Sec 8 vouchers welcome. Call John: 240-498-0037; Harvey: 202-551-6432; or Mark: 301-806-1296.

SE/Fairfax Village—1 BR lux condo w/ W/D in secure bldg nr Metro. \$750+ elec.

Open House Sun, 4-6, 2001 38th St. #201. 301-779-2516

SEAT PLEASANT—GORGEOUS, HUGE HOME!5BR/2BA SFH w/fin bsmt, fplc, CAC. Everything new! \$1895/mo. Section 8 ok. Call John Jay at 301-529-8143. Beltway Properties 301-577-8636

SIL SPG—2BR, lots of space! Full size W/D, eat-in kitchen. Gas cooking, patio/balc. Small pet OK. Pool, tennis, fitness center. \$1050 per mo. Call TODAY! 301-460-4020. Ask for Cathy

Sil Spg—3 BR, 1 BA, 1 car gar, sunrm, deck, storage shed, all appls, \$1500/mo. 2640 Norbeck Rd. Section 8 ok. 240-426-0784

SIL SPG—3 BR TH, 2½ BA. Fin bsmt, hwd flrs, new: carpet & appls. Corian counters, fncd bakwd Close to shppg, metro/bus & rail. \$2300. Call btwn 6pm-9pm. 301-213-9236.

SIL SPG 610 Bennington Dr. \$2300—4BR, 2½BA, updated kit & baths, LR, frpl, FR gar, lge deck, 1 blk fr Sligo Creek Pk. Call Aaron Hargrove for more details. 202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000.

SIL SPG 906 Buckingham Dr. \$2300 5BR, 3BA, updated kit, gar Fresh paint thro'out, immed occup. Call Aaron Hargrove for more details. 202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000.

SIL SPG—Carpeted 1 BR. \$1025 utils incl, onsite prkg, nr Metro/Shops. Bus at door. Deposit \$500. **Monterrey Apts 301-588-3413**

Sil spg (downtown)—1 BR, sunrm, nr Metro. Avl 4/1. \$1600. 202-269-6244.

SILVER SPRING/DOWNTOWN—4BR hse. NEAR METRO! Granite countertops. All upgrades. 3BA. Private parking. In-ground pool. **202-487-0051**

SILVER SPRING/Arcoia area—SFH 4BR, 2.5BA, Close to Metro. \$1995. Avail now. Also: WHEATON New TH, steps frm Metro. 4BR, 2FBA, 2HBA, 2-car garage. \$2295. 301-593-3013

SILVER SPRING—Beautiful 3 MI TH, 3BR, 2FBA, 2HBA, lg wlk out bsmt, hrwd flrs & security alarm. \$2300/mo. 240-643-7627

SILVER SPRING—Sunny, large 1-BR. W/D, w/w crpt, patio/balc. Eat-in kit. Too many amenities to name! Nr. Glenmont Metro. \$920/mo. Ask for Daniel, 301-460-4020.

SPRINGDALE/Mitchellville —4BR Colonial, 3½BA, fin'd bsmt, Near Metro. \$2400. Call 301-464-2728

SPRINGFIELD/Kingstowne—Sublet apt 2BR, 2 BA, sunrm, patio. Many amenities, shppg/rest nearby. Waive dep \$1606/mo 703-922-2843

SPRINGFIELD—Rooms for rent in SFH. \$500 ea per rm. incl utils. Nr Metro/395. **703-944-9201**

STEPHEN CITY VA - MUST SEE. Brand new lge 4BR/3.5BA fncd 3lvs TH w/ Sun Rm, lge Bsmt/Kit, Avl Now. \$1475. 304-283-0542 or 301-806-6199

STERLING—2BR, 1½BA, 2 MI TH, avl now, \$1295. 703-729-5425

STONERIDGE—4BR 3FBA 1HBA TH \$2000/mo call 703-862-3931

S.W.—Brand new luxury TH w/1-car gar, luxury appointed amenities, close to Bolling AFB & Naval Research Lab. Please call Cynthia at 301-871-2084

TAKOMA PARK—1BR in secure, small brick bldg. New kitchen. Hardwood floors. Top floor. Coin operated W/D. \$775 includes heat. **301-774-3620**

TEMPLE HILLS—1BR Apts avail immed! **SPECIAL- \$100 off monthly rent on selected apts.** W2W, d/w, W/D, fireplace optional. Call 301-894-8524

TEMPLE HILLS—2 BR, 1 BA, 2 MI TH. Nr Public trans & Shpgn. Sec 8 Welc. \$1100-3 BR, 2 BA, Condo. All utils incl Wlk to Metro. Sec 8 Welc. \$1450. **The Real Estate Store 301-423-8081**

TEMPLE HILLS—Sparkling rambler, compl. new renovation. 4-BR 3-BA, 2 fpls, sep. in-law suite, CAC, 2-lvl custom deck, fncd bck yrd. Details WWW.Merrimartproperties.com special \$2290 240-882-7666

Temple Hills \$1125

Nice 2 BR Condo

Walk to Metro. Near shopping malls. Section 8 accepted.

- Washer & Dryer
- Dishwasher
- Patio
- Fully Carpeted

Call for appt.

A.J. Blackman 703-772-8597

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Enjoy the Luxury of the Renaissance

Spacious 1BR & 2BRs starting at \$1400

- Fully renovated high end units
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- Year-round pool & tennis facilities
- Fully equipped business center
- Just minutes from Tysons Corner Center
- Shuttle to Metro provided

For appointment, Call Howard at 703-473-1050

VIENNA—4BR, 2FB SFH, fin wlkout bsmt. Madison High School. \$1850. 301-379-2557

VIENNA **LOCATION \$2900**

Lg 4BR, 2.5BA colonial, LR, DR, Den, rec rm, FR w/ fp, EIK, screened porch, deck, lg fenced yrd, Call Oscar PMA Inc. 703-622-4340

WEST END/DUPONT—Emerson Hse. 23rd & N St. Lux 1 BR, den, 1 BA, hwdw flrs, W/D, all amens incl'd, Balc, prkg. \$1975. 301-464-5997

WHEATON \$1650

AVAILABLE NOW

4 BDRM, 2 BTH, SINGLE FAMILY HOME, near metro/shopping. Call 240-535-9399

WOODBIDGE—END UNIT TH, 3BR, 3BA, \$1350. 571-212-1855

WOODBIDGE—TH a/vl immed. 3BR, 1.5BA. \$1000/mo. 703-395-8903.

ROOMMATES

AAFB/Ft Wash—Shr hse, M or F, Free cable utils incl. No pets Ingrnd pool 301-265-0639; 240-401-0069

ALEX—lux, 3 BR, 2 FBA w/ lrgc kitch, portch, wlk to metro, etc, \$2500, call for rental info, 301-807-9830, 773-310-4801

ARL/Crystal City Area—Shr 2 BR, 1½ BA, loft, bsmt hse. \$800+ ½ utils. Safe neighborhd. Close to Metro. 703-535-1576 or 703-599-3985

ASHBURN/43213 Brookeford Square—Share house. Room avail., pvt BA. \$585 incl utils. 703-554-9060.

BOWIE \$500 Room for Rent

NS/No Pets 301-996-6077

BURTONSVILLE—1 RM in TH to shr. \$450 incl utils. Female. Call Liliana: 240-481-7910

CAPITAL HGHTS/SUITLAND—nicely decorated, Nr Metro, \$125-150, dep req. 301-868-7680

CROFTON—Pr/F To SHR LUX T.H. LR w/pvt. ba, CA-TV, Inter,Frpl,PoolsAvl Now. 443-994-8055

FAIRFAX/FAIR OAKS—NS, No pets, to sh lux. TH, MBR w/deck + lg. ba. \$900 utils incl. 703-966-9925

FORRESTVILLE—M/F,1BR in brand new condo to shr, w/d, nr mall/Metro. \$650/mo. 484-955-0790

FORT WASH—Shr condo. Pvt RM & BA. No Pets. \$600 incl utils. Avail May 1st. **301-520-5004**

FT WASH—1 M/F, pdr, bsmt rm, n/s, n/p. \$650/utlis inc + sec dep. w/d, catv, OSP,metro. 202-327-3641

GERMANTOWN, MD—Mstr BR w/pvt BA on sep flr. Hi-spnd net, cable, dish, int satellite & pkg incl. Nr MARC train, bus, Montgomery College & Town Ctr! Female preferred. \$700/mo. **301-646-6080**

LEESBURG—Shr end-unit TH nr Rt 7, lge frnt rm \$700, and bsmt \$1000, pvt BA, nr Home Depot/shpg. 703-926-4774

NW/Columbia Heights—Shr entire renov. home, 3 vry lg sunny rms avail., pvt BA, W/D, kit priv. \$250/wk utlis inc. 202-246-6390

RESTON—Male to shr TH. N-smkg; no pets. Bedrm, shr BA. \$450 + utls. Call 703-927-9202

RESTON—Non smkg to share 3BR, 1½BA TH, \$600/mo. + secur depts. Call John 703-860-8106.

ROCKV PK/Viers Mill—Hse. to shr. Furn rm nr. Metro-shoppng. \$150 wk w/d. utls, cable incl. 202-373-9464

SILVER SPRING—Next to Glenmont Metro, 1BR, \$600/inc utlis. 703-895-3795

SILVER SPRING/WHITE OAK—Lge BR w/FBA in spacious hse w/scenic views on quiet st. \$825/mo. All incl except broadband. N/S pls. Cony to shops & burstes. Avail immed! **FMI, call 301-622-1601.**

SPGFLD—Shr wonderful corner hse, new paint, new cpt. Great location mins. from Spgfd Mall. Price nego. 202-359-6075

SPGFLD—TH to shr, 5 min drive to Metro. \$550/mo inc utlis. Shahram. 240-506-6227

SPRINGFIELD WEST—Share house, beaut. lge bsmt, catv & hi spd internet, cls to Metro, sep entr, all utls incl. \$950/mo. 703-851-3145

TEMPLE HILLS—Spacious BR, avail 4/1. \$755/mo inc utlis. 240-216-4180

UPPER MARLBORO—M/F shr condo, near metro, pvt lge BR w/BA. n/\$695 utlis incl. 301-442-2504

UPPER MARLBORO—Room available, nr Largo Metro & Mall. Prof M/F to shr TH. \$600 incl utlis. 301-442-3538 leave message.

VIENNA/OAKTON-NEAR METRO —Share 3BR Townhouse, Male/Female, No smoking, No Pets. \$690+deposit+½ utilities. 703-582-7295

CONDOS FOR SALE

ALEX \$229,900

OLD TOWN. WALK TO METRO. RENOV. CLOSE TO RIVER. 703-628-4616. TAYLOR BROWN REALTY. www.taylorbrown.com.

ALEX BY APPT NEAR METRO

MONTEBELLO

1Bedroom, 1 Bath, B \$325,000

2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, D, \$399,900

2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, F, \$440,000

2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, G, \$460,000

2 Bedroom, 2Bath, EE, \$535,000

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, J, \$570,000

(1 & 2BR rentals avail)

Lois M. Delaney, CRB, CRS
MONTEBELLO MARKETING
MontebelloMarketing.com

703-548-5958 800-446-4187

ALEX/FT BELVOIR \$200,000

1BR, 1BA. 8609 BEEKMAN PL. (22309). Call John Turnbull, Recommended Realty Associates, 703-802-0555.

ALEX/PARK CENTER \$264,900—Terrific top flr loc in sought-after community. 1-BR 1-BA w/balcony. Coldwell Banker, Mark Souder, 703-856-5538

ALEX/Watergate @ Landmark Condos- 1BR/1BA—Beaut remod, all marble BA, new kit-\$289-900. **1BR/Den, 2BA**—1100 sf-\$329,900. Pools, tennis, shuttle, beaut gated comm. 571-277-1831

ALEXANDRIA \$229,000

NO MONEY DOWN

Gorgeous 1BR & Den. Nr 395 & Duke St. W. Call Mr. Summer, 703-217-1200. Summer Realtors

ALEXANDRIA

JUST REDUCED!2BR, 2BA condo. Excellent Condition. 1200+ SF. Remod. kit, covered prkg. view from balcony to Park setting \$325,000. This unit can rent for \$1450/mo. Dirs: 395 No. Seminary Rd East, R on Kenmore, L on Van Dorn, L on Maris to 5150, Unit. 401. Call Bill Arlington Realty, 703-851-4524 or 703-836-4610.

AMERICAN UNIV \$725,000 OPEN SU 3BR TH. 2½BA. Hdwd flrs, fpl. Pool. 3233D SUTTON PL. NW. Call 301-802-0275.

ARL \$294,000

2700 South 16th Street, Unit 672
1BR condo in hist. Arl. Vil. 302-584-5628

ARL/Ballston \$450,000

Walk to Metro Immac better than new 1 BR & den, 1½ BA, gar prkg, lux bldg. Heart of Ballston. Barnes Real Estate, 703-739-1111

ARL/N Rosslyn/River Pl. \$165,000

LGE STUDIO wlk to Metro.

STUDIO/W PRKG \$158,000

Both include new fitness cntr. Other units avail. homesdatabase.com/ar5543571 Beth, Arlington Realty, 703-836-4610

ARL/ROSSLYN \$209,950

Newly remod. studio 476 s.f. w/views of the pool. Owner wants quick sale. 703-587-4071

ARL/ROSSLYN PROSPECT HOUSE

LOCATION & VIEW

- 2 BR, 2 BA Split lvl. View of garden in excel cond. \$580,000
- 1 BR, 1 BA 8th flr remod. duplex. Spectacular view of city & monuments. \$659,000.
- 1BR Duplex w/spectacular view of city . \$599,000 Luxury condo. 24hr desk. pool, exer rm, garage pkg. **C-21 New Millennium, 703-524-3170**

ARL/VA. SQUARE SPECTACULAR VIEW

2BR, 2BA, corner unit in Lux. Bldg. w/ Great views of DC & Monuments, wrap-around balc, Gas Fpl in Liv rm, marble BAs, 2 gar spaces. Steps to Metro. \$620,000. 703-524-3170 C21 New Millenium

Arlington No/Ballston \$244,900

WHAT A PRICE! WHAT A DEAL!

Lg. studio on 'top' of Ballston Metro. Fab Views! Fee incl. utilities! Lg bdrm nook.S/S kit. Hdwd flrs. Garage. Pool. Lux bldg- \$15K under last sale. PARK PLACE HOMES. 703-851-1600.

ARLINGTON NORTH \$191,000

BRAND NEW LISTING

Junior 1BR, 450 sq ft, great closet space. 2 blks to Rosslyn Metro.

ARLINGTON NORTH \$278,000

BALLSTON METRO

Spacious 1BR, 650 sq ft, decorator touches throughout. Short 10 min wlk to Ballston Metro & mall.

Marion Cloud
703-314-7033
Re/Max Allegiance

BELTSV/MONTGOMERY CO. \$129,900-\$159,900

Closing Help Avail w/these condos call for appt. Humanity Realtors Inc.

301-613-HELP 301-774-HOME

CAP HILL 516 4TH ST NE 3 UNITS

2BR 1½BA (Flat) \$300K

2BR 1½BA (2 Levels) \$375K

2BR 2BA (2 Levels) \$399K

Separately metered; Washer & Dryer in Units; Low Condo Fee; Hardwood Floors; Close to Union Station/Eastern; Market/Supreme Court Bldg.

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GALLAGHER & CO. R.E. INC.

CATHEDRAL/Cleve Pk \$239,000—Studio condo w/ updated kit. & w/d. Across the street from the Washington Cathedral. Pet friendly. Low condo fee. Call RE/MAX 301-989-0013. 301-490-5400.

FALLS CHURCH—FBSB. 2BR 1½BA Condo. balcony. Great cond. Good loc. \$310,000. Call 703-623-9244.

FIRE SALE—New @ Paramount. 2BR/2BA lux condo @ Reston Town Ctr. Top Bargain! LR w/FP & balc. Kit w/upgrd apl, BA updated, 2 gar prkg. Scenic views. Ideal loc. Nr shops/Tysons & C. \$495K. 703-590-3732 or gr8park2002@yahoo.com

FREDERICK/2406 Dominion Dr. #3A—Lovely penthouse condo, 2BR, 2BA, in Whittier. \$225,000. Call Long & Foster 443-535-8000 or Maureen Sibold 301-706-5820.

GREENBELT \$226,000

100% financing, \$6K closing help. 3BR, 2BA w/Den, BA, upgrades, freshly painted. 301-249-8538.

MCLEAN \$1,125,000

HEART OF MCLEAN

Price reduced! Brand new top floor 2-BR 2.5-BA condo (The Palladium) with all the bells and whistles: large kitchen, private access elevator, hardwood floors, marble BA, fplce, 2 balconies, 2 underground parking spaces, large storage room, and concierge. Walk to shops and restaurants. Susan Kris. **GARDNER HOMES 703-356-0880**

MCLEAN OPEN 2-5 SUNDAY MAR 26 395,000

JUST REDUCED FOR FAST SALE!!!!

#1 CONDO UNDER \$450,000!!

UNEXCELLED PRICE, LOCATION!! You'll love Pristine Home, ideally located 4 mins to Tysons, 12 min to DC! Spacious! Pearl cond! Ready now, fabulous grounds! Garage Pkng! DIR: Tysons 123 N., R. Old Meadow, L. Colony's Security Gate, L. on Tremayne to 7720, #303. Call D. Avis 703-598-5757

T.J. LYNCH REALTY

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1 and 2 Bedrooms, starting below \$200,000! Features include: Hdwd floors, Granite Countertops, Stainless Appliances, Washer & Dryer, Marble Tile, Recess Lighting, Central Air, On-site Parking & Electronic Entry.

Open Saturdays and Sundays, 1-4.

For more information contact Nate Tate, 202 262-8819 or Wyvongela Spratt, 202 547-2703. RE/MAX Allegiance 202-547-5600

New Carrollton—Spacious 3BR/1.5BA condo for sale. BUYER gets 5% back. Price \$175,000. Looking for quick closing. Call 301-633-0122

NW/12TH & MASS AVE \$255,500/+ UP

Agent: Susan Ol. 710-274-9011.

NEW STAR REALTY

OAKTON/The Oakton \$275K GREAT OPPTY

LOCATION LOCATION!—1BR, frpl, LR DR combo, lge laundry rm, reasonable condo fee. Weichert Realtors, 703-821-8300. Debbie Dickerson.

SIL SPG/University Towers—Enjoy your life here in this 2 BR, 1 BA unit w/lots & lots of extras. Like brand new & conv to shppg & travel w/the best location. Listed at \$279,900 or owner say make your best offer. Don't Miss out. Call Paul Deloch with ERA Deloch & Associates Realty, 443-694-9688 or 410-255-0221

SILVER SPRING - \$216,000—Lovely 2-BR 2-BA condo. LR, sep DR, W/D, fresh paint, pool, tennis cts, Take Shuttle to Metro. **DAN QUINN, 240-678-6279.**

Re/Max 2000, 301-592-0200

SPRINGFIELD—2BR 1BA ground lvl condo, pool & tennis courts, quiet ngrbrd, walk to West Springfield schools. \$270,000 Call 703-627-9487

WESLEY HEIGHTS \$495,000 DRAMATIC

Sheek and sophisticated renovated 1BR/1BA in upscale Sutton Towers. Amenities incl hwdw flrs & granite. Near shopping & restaurants! **3101 New Mexico Ave, NW. Apt 538. RE/MAX Allegiance 202-338-8900 Eileen Rosenberg 301-526-3595**

HOUSES FOR SALE

700 ACRES- Campbell Co., VA—Own A Mountain. 1031's welcome. Great development opportunity. 434-250-1359.

Real Estate 2000, Inc.

ALEX/\$475K- Nr Beacon Hill Shpgn Ctr. 3BR, lg unif. bsmt. w/wrkshp, 30min/Cap Hill, 10min/ Metro. Lg. bckyd., ½ac. lot, can email photos. 703-620-52

Classifieds

HOUSES FOR SALE

BRIANS ROAD/OXON HILL/LANHAM—3 houses for sale, price ranges vary, some closing cost. Call Vernell 301-292-7100 FT.WASH Realty

BROOKLAND \$399,000
3BR, 1½BA Brick. Shows well. Call Tom Luck, Murrell Realtors, 202-361-8779

Bryans rd. MD \$620,000
6812 LANTANA Dr.

This beautiful house features 5bdrs, 4 1/2bths 2car grg. more at 2hdb.com/ch5550684

CAMP SPRGS/\$439,900-ALL BRICK, 4BR, 3BA COLO/split foyer. 2 FPs, hdwd flrs, garage, sep. DR, new kit. Over ½ ac. lot. 6716 ROBINIA RD. Call The Real Estate Store, 301-423-8081.

CAP HTS—5-BR SFH, 3½-BA, compl. renov., Jacuzzi, w/w cpt, \$269,900. Seller will provide some closing help. 301-420-1677, 301-318-4380

Capitol Heights \$224,900

FLEXIBLE OWNER TERMS
Great starter home fully remodeled
• 5 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
• Basement
• Off street parking
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Call Nicole at 301-213-7246

CAPITOL HGTS \$265,000
3 LVL TH. 3BR, 2FBA, 2HBA, Fin Bsmt, CAC, built in '00. Shows well. Call Edward Cunningham, EXIT Premier Realty, 301-669-0063, 301-560-6700

CENTREVILLE—Delightful 3BR, 2.5BA condo TH. Open 1-4. 14523 St. Germain Dr. #329K. Call Julie for dirs. 703-309-8287 Keller Williams

CENTREVILLE OPEN SUN \$355,000
TH, 2 lv, 3BR, 2.5BA. FSBO. 14012 D Grumble Jones Crt. 703-365-9551

CLINTON \$569,000
Open Sunday, 5-BR 3½-BA, lg Winchester home, sunny & bright, many amens., Call Huge 240-305-5885

COLUMBIA HTS \$525K—3BR, 1FBA, 2HBA, fully renov. new kit cabs, appls, new hdwd flrs thro' out, fully fin bsmt, 2 new rear decks, OSP for 1 car, call Aaron Hargrove 202-438-0701 Realty Execs 2000.

COLUMBIA HTS **NOW \$465,000**
605 ROCK CREEK CHURCH RD 2 BLOCKS FROM METRO—Stunning 3BR, 2FBA row house w/up-dated kit, updated baths, sep DR & LR, rear deck w/privacy fence & fin bsmt w/walk out. Call RE/MAX 301-989-0013. 301-490-5400 See pix at HomesNow.com

DEALE—100ft waterfront in Deale, MD dbl lot panoramic views of the bay \$1.1 million call 410-867-4114

DERWOOD \$339,900 **CALL FOR APPT**
Sparkling 3 lvl brick TH, backs to woods! 3BR, 2½BA, close to metro, 17509 SABRINA TERR. 703-298-2055. THE OCEAN GROUP. EHO.

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LOOK out

* TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

Speaking Out

The once-reclusive mob family pleads its case to the public

There was a time when the Gottis, New York's first family of organized crime, rarely opened their mouths. John, the late head of the brutal Gambino family, would have said as much — except he never said much.

If you visit the Gottis these days, forget about the old code of silence.

Omerta? No more-ta.

The racketeering retrial of John A. "Junior" Gotti, which ended March 10 with a hung jury and a mistrial, featured the Gotti clan discussing everything from their late patriarch's job as mob boss to an alleged illegitimate grandchild. Its members gave interviews, offered trial analysis, even took the witness stand.

Mostly, they harped on the government's alleged incessant interest in anyone with the Gotti surname — even as Junior acknowledged following his father into the top echelon of the Gambino family. The younger Gotti quit the mob years ago, his relatives loudly asserted.

"Your sons are next," warned Victoria Gotti, widow of the late "Teflon Don" John, apparently addressing those American mothers who also birthed mobbed-up offspring. "That's what they're trying to do. They're trying to railroad my son."

Junior, 42, is due to begin a third trial July 5, after the second jury's 8-4 vote for acquittal. He faces 30 years in prison if convicted on racketeering charges that include ordering the botched 1992 kidnapping of radio show host Curtis Sliwa, the founder of the Guardian Angels.

Sliwa was nearly killed when a masked gunman shot him twice, and only survived by diving out the window of a cab rigged to keep him

"It's part of a carefully crafted strategy to try and engender sympathy for [John A. 'Junior' Gotti.]"

RANDY MASTRO
FORMER DEPUTY N.Y. MAYOR AND
LONGTIME GOTTI OPPONENT

trapped inside. Authorities, along with Sliwa, charged that Gotti ordered the attack to silence the radio personality's verbal fusillades on Gotti senior.

Junior's second trial featured a flurry of publicity, much of it created by his relatives.

His mother spoke with the city's two tabloid newspapers about allegations that her husband had fathered a love child. Her daughters Angel and Victoria — the latter was the blonde-maned star of the A&E reality show "Growing Up Gotti" — eagerly defended their brother. And son Peter was called to testify — not under subpoena by the prosecution, but as a defense witness.

Once there, Peter acknowledged what his father never did: The elder Gotti was a major organized crime figure.

"Do you know what your father did for a living?" asked prosecutor Michael McGovern on cross-examination.

"Boss," Gotti replied.

Pressed on whether his father was the head of the Gambino crime family, Gotti replied, "I would probably say he was."

It's the kind of behavior that Peter's father would never have tolerated.

"This (is) how we get in trouble — we talk," John Sr. observed in a prescient January 1990 chat above the Ravenite Social Club. While he espoused silence to his cohorts, a government bug in the Little Italy apartment recorded that talk and

INSIDE

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Rivers' Edge: Joan R. tries match.com | **38**



MOTHER'S WAY: Victoria Gotti, seen at a Manhattan court in September, has been a vocal defender of her son, John Gotti Jr.

The Gabby Gottis

dozens of other Gotti conversations that led to his demise.

But Gotti remained otherwise tightlipped. Before his 1992 sentencing for murder and racketeering, Gotti instructed his attorney to "get it over with without anybody making any speeches."

Gotti shook his head no when asked if he wanted to address the court. The smirk on his face sufficed. Five minutes later, Gotti left for prison. Ten years later, he died there.

When the elder Gotti did speak out, it was typically to drop a one-liner. "I'm the boss of my family — my wife and kids at home," he

told reporters before one court appearance.

"Three-to-one odds I beat this," he said after a 1990 indictment.

Gotti never publicly acknowledged his role in the mob; he never even acknowledged the mob existed. Junior was initially a chip off the old cellblock. He followed his father to the top of the crime family, authorities said. And he pleaded guilty in April 1999 to bribery, extortion and other charges with barely a peep.

While both Johns suffered in silence, another family member complained about his 2003 rack-

eteering conviction. "It's easy to convict a Gotti," said Junior's uncle Peter Gotti, a former garbageman turned mob boss. "All you have to have is the name."

It was a mantra picked up by the clan at Junior's retrial. Mob experts said it was no coincidence that the Gotti family shift from clandestine to chatty coincided with the case.

"It's part of a carefully crafted strategy to try and engender sympathy for the defendant," said attorney Randy Mastro, a former deputy mayor who helped drive the mob out of the Fulton Fish Market. "They're communicating with the public at large — future potential jurors."

Sliwa, who matched the Gottis sound-bite-for-sound-bite during the two trials, was no fan of the "Dapper Don," although he gives Gotti credit for going away quietly. He sees the new, talkative Gottis as a family effort to spread the word that Junior really has quit the mob.

"It's all about saving Junior Gotti's neck," he said. "They realize that basically, it's the only chance to avoid him going away forever."

LARRY MCSHANE (AP)

LOOK out

Voices

'The Office'

Greg Daniels

GREG DANIELS, executive producer of "The Office" on NBC, was online Tuesday and talked about the TV sitcom and real life. | washingtonpost.com/liveonline

I saw an interview with Jenna Fischer where she said that for the audition, the auditioners (were you one?) directed her, "Don't be afraid to bore us." This sounds like it was a great technique.

I remember her audition very well. She was behaving as if she was a receptionist who we had pulled in and asked to audition. When given the opportunity to improvise, she would uncomfortably answer with one syllable words, unlike most of the other actors who were anxious to get the job and behaved more like actors who were anxious to get a job. It was perfect and I felt like I was watching a magician because I remember asking her how she did it.

Do you find inspiration for the show from people you know who have typical office jobs and vent about what happens there?

My father was a salesman, then a sales manager when I was a kid, and for about nine years while I was producing "King of the Hill," our offices were in a high-rise office building in Century City that was full of typical office workers with a Starbucks on the ground floor, so I have been surrounded by typical office life for a while. And when

the writers are all coming up with ideas, we are hanging around in little rented office suites that could be for any small company. Also I try to be an inconsistent, stupid, arbitrary and self-centered boss to them to provoke story ideas.

On a recent morning at my own office, I discovered a raunchy print-out from a sex personals site on the printer. I put it down pronto, retreated to my desk and alerted a co-worker. We then spent the entire rest of the day watching the printer to try to figure out the culprit. Never did identify a suspect but watching people find the printout was a lot of fun in itself.

That's got to happen a lot. My mom told me a story about a woman she worked with who sent a romantic e-mail to a coworker named "Mark" but hit the wrong button and it went to "marketing." I am trying to work that into a script. Thanks for the compliments!

→ Today on Live Online

NOON: Mark J. Mitchell, vice president for school information services at the Washington-based nonprofit National Association of Independent Schools discusses the rising annual tuition rates at the region's private schools.

Letters

On Metro, Seconds Matter

MARY HITCHCOCK [who asked "Why must people walk on escalators?" in a letter in Tuesday's Express] appears to be one of those lucky Metro riders that has never had a last-minute project at work, and doesn't have to wait for the specific

train that goes all the way to the end of the line, and can happily get on the first train that comes by. Clearly she has also not missed her specific train and subsequently waited in the freezing cold for 25 minutes because she missed her bus home by 30 seconds because someone was standing in front of her on the escalator.

—JAIME SERBIN
Washington, D.C.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

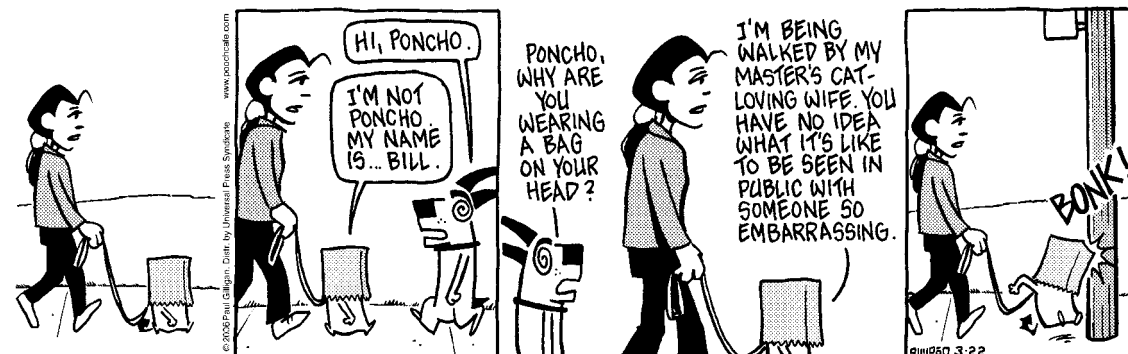


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Bizarro | Dan Piraro



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The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



WEATHER FORECAST, PART I

“... [T]he National Weather Service rescinded the early Winter Storm Warning when it turned out that their meteorologists were yet again absolutely wrong.”

DC.METBLOGS.COM ON WEATHER FORECASTS FOR TUESDAY, WHICH AT ONE TIME PREDICTED SNOWFALL FOR THE D.C. AREA.

THE Blog LOG

BUYER BEWARE

“Google has launched Google Finance ... loaded with business info and information from blogs. Huh. ... Blogs are not a good source of solid info for people making financial decision.”

BLOGHERALD.COM QUESTIONS GOOGLE'S USE OF BLOG-BASED INFORMATION FOR ITS NEW FINANCIAL PORTAL.

WEATHER FORECAST, PART 2

“Moody and unpredictable, proudly displaying her mean streak, spring is here.... It reminds me of malicious little kids who torture frogs and turtles when they're bored.”

GOLDPOPPY.BLOGSPOT.COM ON THE AREA'S RECENT WEATHER CONDITIONS.



WE'RE DOOMED!

“It's expected though that businesses, communities and individual citizens will largely have to make their own plans as the ability of any governments to help after an outbreak would be severely strained. Literally tens of millions of people around the world could be killed.... We're not ready.”

ALTHOUGH D.C. WILL HOST AN AVIAN FLU COORDINATION SUMMIT IN APRIL, DCABLOOB.BLOGSPOT.COM IS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE SITUATION, PREDICTING DOOM.

DON'T MESS WITH CLAUDIA

“When you're a beautiful supermodel ... it's almost your obligation to destroy the lives of ugly poor people around you.”

THESUPERFICIAL.COM ON CLAUDIA SCHIFFER SUING AND BANKRUPTING HER FORMER COOK WHEN SHE QUOTED THE SUPERMODEL IN A COOKBOOK WITHOUT PERMISSION.



DON'T vomit in the art, please. “Air-sickness bags are art” proclaims the Air-Sickness Bag Virtual Museum (airsicknessbags.com), which has more than 1,800 of them on display. If you've kept some interesting ones, you can send them in to be included — unused bags would be preferred.

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Resist the temptation to capitalize on another's misfortune, despite your need to increase the pace of your progress.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You'll want to do things in your own way—to the extent that others may back away and leave you very much alone for a time.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) It's up to you to keep deception out of the picture. During evening hours, a misunderstanding may bring tensions to the boiling point.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may be asked some difficult questions to which there are no hard-and-fast answers. Instinct and training work closely together.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may have to pick up the pace, especially toward midday, to tend to all the personal business on the docket.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You should be able to reap your own personal benefits from

a situation that others wish had not developed. Fate takes an odd turn in the p.m.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) You'll find yourself embracing things you had shied away from in days or weeks past. Your attitude is undergoing a change for the better.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) A phone call, letter, telegram or other form of long-distance message is essential to your peace of mind. Be prepared to receive it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Introspection will lead directly to the door of a new and illuminating truth. Behind that door waits much that is intriguing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) They say love is a two-way street, but you may have to hog the road to make any headway. Stake your claim in no uncertain terms.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You can improve your own outlook, and your productivity, simply by accepting current limitations and beginning to work with them willingly.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You may find yourself entangled in a bittersweet triangle of sorts. Others involved are likely to depend upon you for a solution.

express

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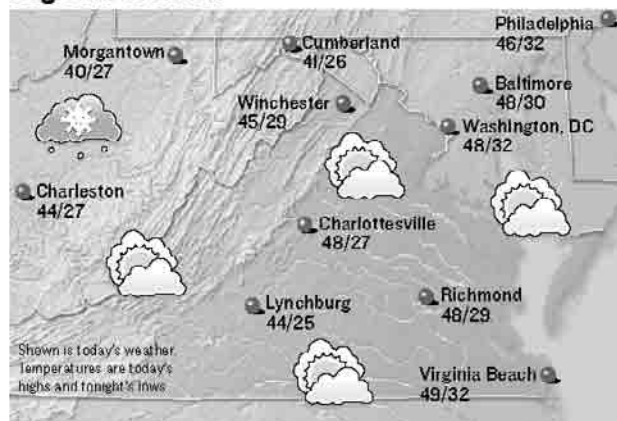
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5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
48°	32°	51° / 37°	51° / 36°	49° / 36°	52° / 37°

Regional Weather



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Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Tues.

Temperature

High	41°
Low	30°
Normal high	57°
Normal low	39°
Average humidity	54%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.01"
Month to date	0.04"
Normal month to date	2.48"
Year to date	5.75"
Last year to date	5.87"
Normal year to date	8.32"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see:
washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

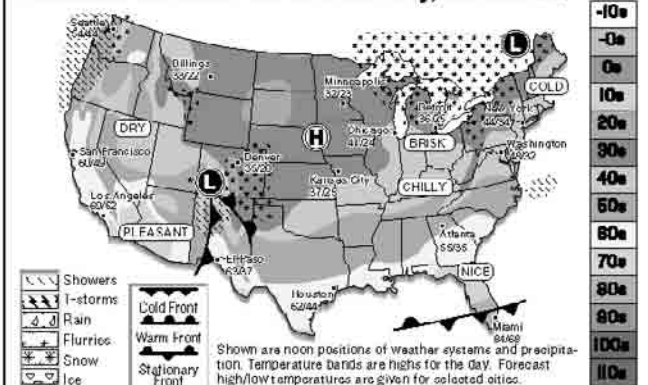
D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, windy. High 48. Wind northwest 12-25 mph. Tonight, mostly clear, breezy, cold. Low 32. Wind northwest 7-14 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	6:09 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:22 p.m.
Moonrise today	1:32 a.m.
Moonset today	10:22 a.m.



National Weather for Wednesday, March 22



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo	Thurs. Hi/Lo
Atlanta	55/35/s	56/34/c
Boston	44/32/c	42/34/pc
Chicago	41/24/pc	40/28/sf
Dallas	53/38/pc	52/35/pc
Denver	35/20/sf	44/23/pc
Honolulu	79/73/sh	81/69/sh
Los Angeles	69/52/s	77/54/s
Miami	84/68/pc	83/67/t
New York City	44/34/pc	48/36/pc
Orlando	78/52/s	74/52/t
Seattle	54/44/sh	61/44/sh

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo	Thurs. Hi/Lo
Amsterdam	42/32/c	43/34/pc
Athens	68/54/pc	68/52/sh
Berlin	39/25/c	41/27/pc
Buenos Aires	79/67/pc	78/67/pc
Calgary	39/24/pc	43/26/pc
Dublin	43/34/c	46/43/c
Geneva	52/42/c	53/41/c
Moscow	22/8/pc	23/13/sn
Rome	58/50/r	63/45/pc
Sydney	75/64/pc	79/63/pc
Tokyo	55/45/r	57/46/r

s=sunny, pc=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, sh=showers, t=thunderstorms, r=rain, sf=snow flurries, sr=snow, i=ice

Double-Click Design

Fashion

Retail luxury goods have found a hungry audience online

Margaret Forehand, a self-proclaimed designer-fashion junkie, has been pleased with the plentiful offerings found on luxury stores' Web sites recently.

"It's more reflective of the store experience," said the 33-year-old Tampa, Fla., resident who spent \$5,000 on items like Gucci skirts and a Michael Kors handbag on sites like neimanmarcus.com and saks.com during recent months.

That's a big change from "all the basic clothing" she found online four years ago when she left Los Angeles for her hometown and turned to cyber shopping because the designer selection was limited.

"It's more reflective of the store experience."

MARGARET FOREHAND
A TAMPA, FLA., RESIDENT, ON SHOPPING AT WEB SITES LIKE NEIMANMARCUS.COM AND SAKS.COM

Having overcome the challenge of persuading fashion designers to sell online and doubts that shoppers like Forehand won't buy expensive dresses without being able to try them on, retailers are finding a flourishing designer business in cyberspace.

According to Forrester Research, luxury online sales, including jewelry and designer fashions, rose 28 percent to \$3.2 billion last year from the previous year. That was faster than the 22 percent increase in total online sales, excluding travel, which



Sales of luxury items through Web sites like neimanmarcus.com have increased.

reached \$109 billion in 2005.

It "looks like right now everyone is winning" in the online luxury business, said Sucharita Mulpuru, a luxury analyst at Forrester Research.

Store executives see their Internet business as a way to drive new and younger customers to their stores. At saks.com, the average age of the customer is in her late 30s, compared to age

48 for the store shopper. About 40 percent of its online customers live outside of the Saks Fifth Avenue trading area, according to Denise Incandela, senior vice president of saks.com.

To keep sales churning, upscale department stores are expanding their selections online as they try to attract new and younger customers. And Internet-only global luxury players like net-a-porter.com and yoox.com are offering more cutting-edge designer labels and special services aimed at their biggest spenders.

Last month, Saks Fifth Avenue's site launched an "incubator," featuring emerging clothing and accessories designers whose creations are not sold at its 55 department stores, and last fall added such top names as Michael Kors, Marc Jacobs and Giorgio Armani. Neiman Marcus Group Inc. recently expanded into maternity wear online and reported that last fall designer fashion became its fastest growing category online. And Nordstrom Inc. began selling top designer names online such as Armani Collezione, Burberry and Dolce & Gabbana in a new Web page unveiled in early February. ANNE D'INNOCENZIO (AP)

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Styles

LOOK
out

Color Me Beautiful

Who decides the hues that are hot? Pantone ... sort of

During one spring and summer a few years back, it was impossible to find clothing that wasn't hot pink, electric green or blinding yellow.

Color coordination? It felt more

like a color conspiracy.

Like store shelves, runway shows also tend to be dominated by the same new colors each year.

"You are sitting watching shows and it's like, 'Who sent out the memo?'" asked Hope Greenberg, fashion director of the shopping magazine Lucky.

Well, actually, Pantone, Inc., did.

Much of the fashion industry follows the lead of just eight color forecasters who work for Pantone, based in Carlstadt, N.J. Twice a year, the company serves up a rainbow of nearly 2,000 shades, tones and tints, and its color gurus announce which ones are hot.

They scour some odd places for hints of what's to come.

"If you look around right now there is this huge interest in white," said Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute. She cited the new Andrew Lloyd Webber production on Broadway, "The Woman in White"; a white lion featured in the film "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe"; and a new drink called the White Lady.

The rise of Starbucks and specialty coffees, Eiseman says, was followed by the ascendance of dark brown and mocha clothing.

The biannual Pantone View Color Planner is a bible of 1,925 fabric options. Intended to offer direction and inspiration to fabric professionals, the publication comes both as a paper deck and a three-volume set of dyed cot-

Did Donna Karan show shocking red for fall because of an international Pantone color conspiracy?



Lisa Herbert, president of Pantone's consumer products division, knows that all the fashion world really wants is someone to hold its hand and tell it what to do.

ton swatches.

"Customers always want to know what the colors are going to be this season," said Lisa Herbert, Pantone's vice president of consumer products. The company's forecasters note how many times they run across a particular color in the design world, and the numbers are tallied by computer. The most common are announced as a coming season's top 10 picks.

This spring, for instance, the top 10 list included a lot of blues and neutrals, led by shades called "Sand Dollar," "Deep Ultramarine" and "French Vanilla."

Pantone was founded more than 40 years ago to help graphic designers identify colors more precisely. If they wanted a particular green in an advertisement, for example, they gave the printer a Pantone number

for that tint.

Fashion designers were interested in knowing which colors were in demand so they could tap into trends. At this February's Fashion Week in New York, for instance, smoky tones with names like "Mineral Red" and "Frost Grey" played big for the fall. Breakouts Bill Blass and Donna Karan threw shocking red into the mix.

"No designers really get together and plan it," said Michael Vollbracht, creative director of Bill Blass, adding that he tends to break the Pantone mold. "I think the higher you go the less you need it," he said.

In any case, the runways of Milan, Paris and New York are where mid- to lower-end designers get their color ideas, and retailers soon follow en masse.

SHARON L. CRENSON (AP)

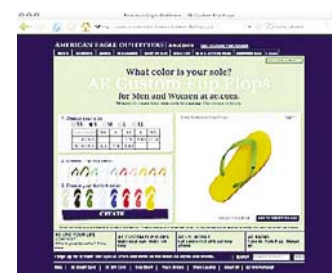
Jewelry



America's Next Top Bauble

W Jewelry magazine ranks the **TOP 10 JEWELRY** collections in its spring issue, starting with Queen Elizabeth's crown jewels. Farah Pahlavi, the former empress of Iran, comes in second, despite having to leave much of her jewelry behind when she fled. Elizabeth Taylor placed third. She owns a 69-carat pear-shaped diamond, a gift from then-husband Richard Burton. He also gave her La Peregrina, a gigantic pearl, above. Michael Jackson gave her gemstone-encrusted monkey jewelry. (AP)

Footwear



Gimmicks Are Fun

One of the surest signs that spring has sprung is the ubiquitous sight of flip-flop sandals. Sure, they're easy to wear and remind us of the better-weather days to come, but do you really want your flip-flops to look like everyone else's? At **AMERICAN EAGLE**, shoppers can customize the colors of their flip-flops, choosing from 11 uppers and nine bottoms for a total of 99 combinations (\$14.50). The shoes are for men and women. Some of the choices are camouflage, pink, gold, red and deep blue. The customization can be done online at AE.com or at some of the retailer's larger stores. (AP)



PANTONE
Runway
REPORT

LOOK out

People



DOUG DURAN/AP

Thom has strong political opinions.

DO-GOODERS

Bono No Longer Cool; Real Stars Snub Heads of State

Radiohead frontman **THOM YORKE** says he turned down the chance to discuss climate change with Tony Blair because the British prime minister has "no environmental credentials." The charity Friends of the Earth, for which the singer is an ambassador, asked him to meet with Blair. (AP)

TACT

Here's a Backhanded Insult

CARLOS SANTANA says his philosophy is the antithesis of President George W. Bush's. "I have wisdom. I feel love. I live in the present and



I try to present a dimension that brings harmony and healing," he said. "My concept is the opposite of George W. Bush."

Santana, speaking to Peruvian journalists ahead of a Tuesday concert, said young people's opposition to the war in Iraq is reaching the dimensions of the anti-Vietnam war sentiment in the 1970s. (AP)



KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/AP

DATING

Love Bites

JOAN RIVERS and her assistant have created a profile for her on Match.com. "We were hoping to meet Mr. Right," Rivers said. "We didn't even get a wink. ... Maybe there is somebody sitting out there in the east side of New York," she said. The profile lists Rivers as looking for a man between 65 and 75. Her answer under the children section says "probably not." (AP)

CLOTHING

Not Exactly L.A.M.B.

DELLA REESE is tired of boring clothes for larger women. So the plus-size singer has started her own clothing line. "It's very difficult for me to find anything with shape or color ... some oomph," said Reese, who described herself as 5 feet 2 inch-

es tall and 200 pounds. Reese, 74, has designed her own vividly hued



outfits for years. Her line, Della Reese Fashions, will debut April 4 on the Home Shopping Network. (AP)

BOREDOM

Greedy Comedian Stretches Brand Too Thin

The publisher of Jon Stewart's million-selling "America (The Book)" is releasing a book by **STEPHEN COLBERT**. "This book will have the same noble goal as my television show: to change the world one factual error at a time," Colbert said Tuesday in a statement issued by Warner Books. Colbert's book, currently



untitled, is scheduled for release in fall 2007. Colbert, a longtime fixture on Stewart's "Daily Show," now hosts "The Colbert Report," also aired on Comedy Central. He contributed to "America (The Book)," co-authored "Wigfield" with Amy Sedaris and Paul Dinello and is credited with coining "truthiness," the quality of stating concepts one wishes or believes to be true, rather than the facts. (AP)

PROPERTY

Vegas Real-Estate Bubble Swells With Pride and Money

PAMELA ANDERSON has bought a condo in a \$1 billion luxury high-rise in Las Vegas, its developer said Monday. She purchased a 2-bedroom penthouse with more than 2,000 square feet and views of the Strip facing north, south and east, said Laurence Hallier, chairman of Hallier Properties LLC, which is developing Panorama Towers. Similar units sell for more than \$2 million, he said. Tobey Maguire and Leonardo DiCaprio also are reported to have bought into the development. Anderson, who visits Las Vegas about six to eight times a year, bought a unit in Tower 4, which won't be ready until late 2008. (AP)



BRAD BARKET/GETTY IMAGES

Pamela's cleavage will occupy its own Nevada zip code once she moves to Vegas.

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LOOKout

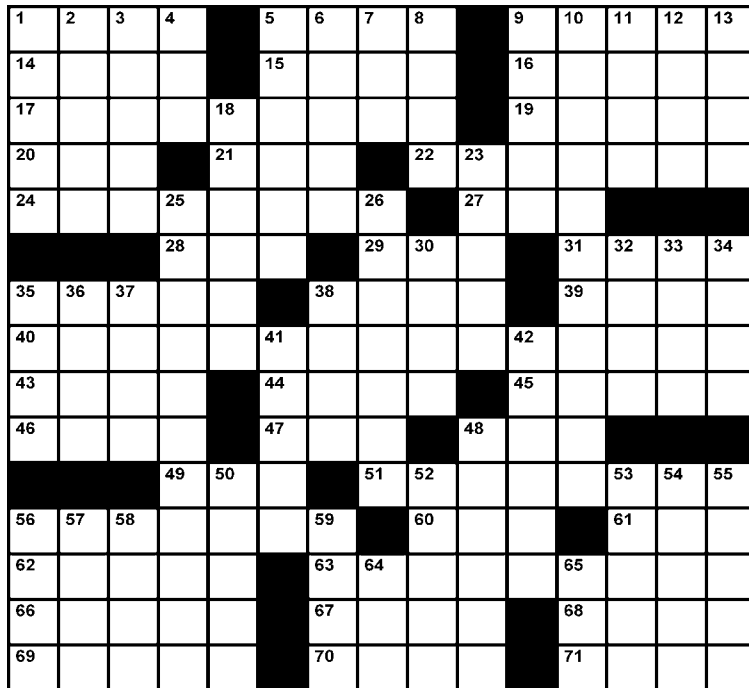
That's Odd | Edited by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1 What a hog wants
5 Dull-colored
9 In pursuit
14 Inspires reverence
15 17th of 50
16 More than mislead
17 Some knee-slappers
19 Hardly hidden
20 Clerical abbreviation
21 Aquarium implement
22 Sneaky plots
24 Superhero's secret
27 Stumblebum
28 McShane or Holm
29 Authority on diamonds?
31 Holy image
35 Reeked
38 "Ah, me!"
39 Bookbinder's buy
40 Some executive purchases
43 Hairy humanoid of legend
44 Keep the running
45 Get to the other side
46 Some Marvel heroes
47 Prefix meaning "recent"
48 Before, before a word
49 Bolt partner
51 Ghastly
56 Lunar
- phenomenon
60 Poetic conjunction
61 Confession starter
62 Birds that sound batty
63 Somewhere to sail?
66 "Beetle Bailey" character
67 Fishtail
68 Leer lasciviously
69 You do it if you breathe
70 "Sorry about that!"
71 Partner for means

DOWN

- 1 Native New Zealander
2 Had stuff
3 "The Canterbury Tales" character
4 Subj. for some immigrants
5 Slain
6 Clark's Butler
7 It can be hot, thin or cold
8 Give orders to
9 "Welcome to the islands!"
10 Contents of some salaries
11 Swarm
12 Raison d'____
13 Putrefies
18 Type of valve
23 Thicket
25 Typical baseball game
26 Christmas tradition
30 Medieval club
32 Advertising



award

- 33 Contract loopholes
34 Top Untouchable
35 Mythological river
36 Unnamed ones
37 Comic actor Johnson
38 Detail handler, maybe
41 Some ice cream units
42 Drive-in feature
48 Uses a blender, perhaps

50 Improbable

- victory
52 Accelerate sharply
53 Last of a series
54 ____-mouthed (insincere)
55 Relieves, as pain
56 Otherwise
57 Gently urge
58 Singer or Petty
59 Company that put a tiger in your tank
64 "Telephone Line" rock grp.
65 Porcine mama

Yesterday's Solution

T	A	R	A	L	I	S	P	I	N	L	E	T
E	V	I	L	O	D	O	R	N	A	I	R	A
S	A	F	E	B	O	X	I	N	G	R	I	N
T	I	L	E	E	L	M	E	R	C	I	E	S
A	L	E	R	T	I	O	T	A				
	R	E	T	U	R	N	S	T	A	R	E	S
A	C	A	D	E	M	I	C	S	E	R	O	D
L	A	N	D	P	L	E	A	S	A	L	G	A
A	N	G	E	R	E	N	D	T	A	B	L	E
S	T	E	R	E	S	S	E	N	I	L	E	
				D	O	M	E	D	E	R	B	Y
A	P	P	E	A	S	E	I	K	E	R	O	E
G	O	L	F	C	O	U	R	S	E	S	I	C
E	L	I	O	T	S	A	T	E	O	N	C	E
S	E	E	R	S	E	T	O	N	S	K	I	S

Today in History

- 1638** Religious dissident Anne Hutchinson was expelled from the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
1765 Britain enacted the Stamp Act to raise money from the American colonies.
1820 U.S. naval hero Stephen Decatur was killed in a duel with Commodore James Barron near Washington.
1882 Congress outlawed polygamy.
1945 The Arab League was formed with the adoption of a charter in Cairo, Egypt.
1978 Karl Wallenda, the 73-year-old patriarch of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act, fell to his death while attempting to walk a cable strung between two hotels in Puerto Rico.

Su | do | ku | © Puzzles by Pappocom

Degree of Difficulty: MEDIUM

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's Solution

2	8	1	6	7	5	9	3	4
4	6	3	2	1	9	8	7	5
9	7	5	3	4	8	1	6	2
3	2	9	4	6	7	5	1	8
1	5	6	9	8	3	2	4	7
8	4	7	5	2	1	3	9	6
5	1	2	7	3	6	4	8	9
6	9	8	1	5	4	7	2	3
7	3	4	8	9	2	6	5	1

	4			5		7		
3				7		9		1
	5	7	6			8		
1						4		
	7			4			8	
		8						7
		3			4	2	6	
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Spring Blossoms Early in Washington

Springtime is on the verge of blossoming all over Washington, with warmer weather arriving early to usher in one of the most popular events of the year. The National Cherry Blossom Festival kicks off this weekend and will bring thousands of visitors and local residents to our nation's capital. The two-week festival runs from March 25 to April 9 and features more than 150 international cultural performances and over 90 other special events. For a complete schedule of events and more information, visit NationalCherryBlossomFestival.org.

Your best bet to get downtown this weekend is to take Metrobus or Metrorail. The following events are expected to draw thousands to the National Mall on Saturday, March 25:

The National Cherry Blossom Festival Family Day and Opening Ceremony 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Family Day at the National Building Museum, 401 F St., NW, features hands-on activities, workshops and performances from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Opening Ceremony will start at 4 p.m. and include a presentation of this year's National Cherry Blossom Festival Goodwill Ambassadors and a special performance featuring Japanese and American entertainers.

Metrorail: Judiciary Square station on the Red Line or Gallery Pl-Chinatown on the Green/Yellow lines. Metrobus: Routes 80, D1, D3, D6, P6 or X2.



Smithsonian Kite Festival 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

In celebration of its 40th anniversary, the Smithsonian Kite Festival invites kite enthusiasts to fly their grooviest, most far-out kites over the National Mall. You can watch the soaring sights or compete in one of three contests: the handmade kite competition, rokkaku kite battle and Hot Tricks competition. For more information, visit KiteFestival.org.

Metrorail: Smithsonian station on the Blue/Orange lines or L'Enfant Plaza on the Green/Yellow lines.

National Marathon 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.

More than 5,000 participants in the National Marathon will weave their way from RFK Stadium to the National Mall, Capitol Hill, DC waterfront and suburban Prince George's County. A number of downtown roads will be blocked off or restricted during the marathon. For more information, visit NationalMarathon.com.

Plan your outing around town this weekend with Metro's Trip Planner at MetroOpensDoors.com.

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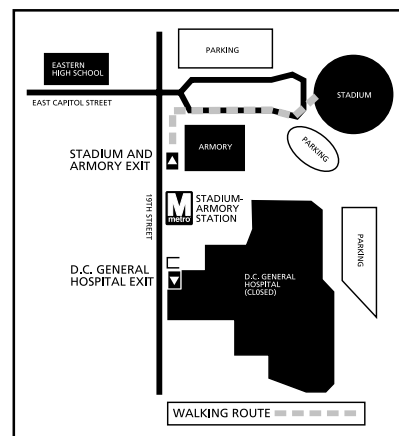


Take Metro to the Nats Pre-Season Games Tomorrow and Sunday

It's Year Two of major league baseball in Washington! Even though they're pre-season games, you'll still have fun rooting for the Nats as they host Baltimore tomorrow and Houston on Sunday. And since it's pre-season, it's a great opportunity to get reacquainted with taking Metro to RFK

Stadium. After all, there's no easier way to get there. Just take the Blue or Orange Line to Stadium Armory and follow the directions on the walking map on the right.

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express



On the Avenue, **HON**

Hampden's hip but
not pretentious | **2**

MICHELLE REPISO/EXPRESS

PLUS: David Simon, the Baltimorean behind "The Wire," reveals his haunts | **5**

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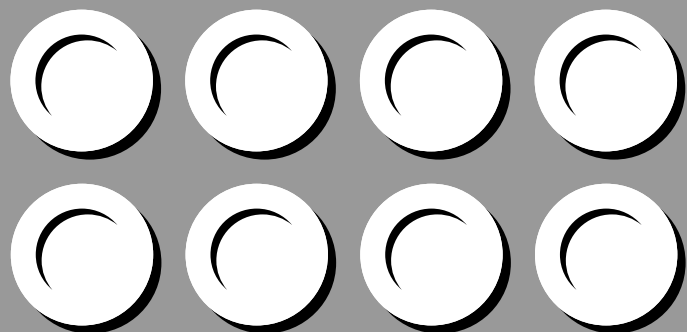
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explore Baltimore



BIRD WATCHING: Cafe Hon on The Avenue embraces all Baltimore stereotypes, but is particularly fond of the tackiest ones.

Hampden, Hon

Baltimore's cheekiest 'hood lures with art, love and flamingos

In this city of neighborhoods, none has the cheeky attitude — or the 30-foot pink flamingo — of Hampden. The working-class stretch on the north side of town has long been known for the village feel it's cultivated since the 19th century, when its residents worked the local cotton mills. But it wasn't much of a destination for outsiders until 14 years ago, when Denise Whiting opened Cafe Hon (home to the aforementioned flamingo). "I figured if I served good food, people would come," Whiting said. And she was right.

Since then, the diner (1002 W. 36th St.; 410-243-1230), named for Bawlmerese's favorite term of endearment, has dished out meat-loaf, crab cakes and chili cheese fries with a side order of Baltimore love. In the process, it's helped reinvent the vacant storefronts of West 36th Street, known as "The Avenue," into a bustling row of shops, galleries and restaurants.

"There's a warmth in Hampden. It's almost like it hugs you," Whiting explained. Part of that comes from the area's atmosphere, which manages to be hip without being pretentious. No one takes anything too seriously. Just take a gander at the purple bathtub adorned with orange and red flames that sits in front of the gallery 2 Hot Art Chicks (820 W. 36th St.; 410-235-1888).

The people who live around the area are welcoming, too. Hampden attracts a wide swath of Baltimoreans, from blue-collar folks who have always been in the 'hood (immortalized in John Waters' 1998 film "Pecker") to the laid-back students from nearby Johns Hopkins and the Maryland Institute College of Art, to the baby-toting yuppies who lurk in gentrified pockets everywhere.

Last Saturday morning, a gang of proper, red hat-clad women clamored over the scones and clotted cream at Fannertees (3547 Chestnut Ave.; 410-235-8327) while shaggy-haired artists got their coffee fix at Golden

West Cafe (1105 W. 36th St.; 410-889-8891), a New Mexican eatery with an insanely delicious breakfast burrito. Nearby, a throng of buttoned-down types perused the vast vino selection at The Wine Source (3601 Elm Ave.; 410-467-7777), a liquor mecca that also offers imported cheese, coffee, cured meats and olives.

Annual events draw all of the neighborhood's characters together to celebrate Hampden's kitschy heritage. The second Saturday in June brings HonFest (honfest.net), another one of Whiting's creations, where SPAM bowling and ladies with spectacular bouffants lure 20,000 visitors. In the winter, residents of the 700 block of West 34th Street swallow sky-high electricity bills to dazzle visitors with over-the-top holiday light displays and a hubcap Christmas tree.

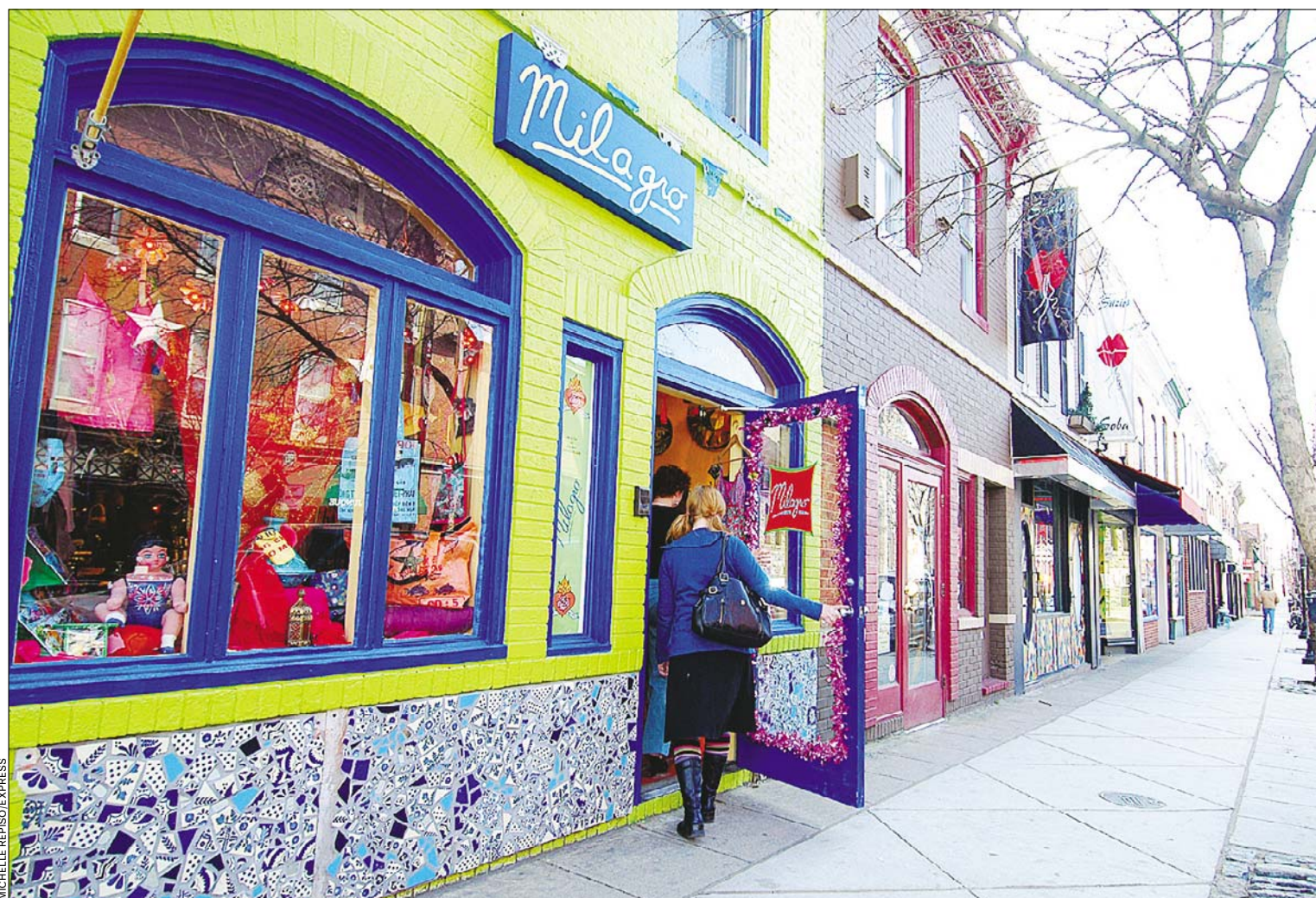
Susannah Siger, who owns the clothing boutique Oh! Said Rose (840 W. 36th St.; 410-235-5170) and the nearby Ma Petite Shoe (832 W. 36th St.; 410-235-3442), a shop specializing in footwear and artisanal chocolate, sees Hampden as a place to cut loose. "It's really

become a destination for innovative merchants because it hasn't been Gap-ed over," said Siger. "If they've got a different idea, they come here."

Her clothing store stocks Cher-worthy evening gowns, the innovative-yet-retro looks of Baltimore designer Edye Sanford and a line of shorts, tees and hoodies emblazoned with "Hampden Charm School." The motto, "Charm, Poise, Character, Elegance, Sophistication," pokes fun at the neighborhood's coarse reputation, and inspired the formation of the Hampden Charm School cheerleaders, who snagged second place in a HonFest competition last year thanks to choreography tips from a Baltimore burlesque/trapeze artist.

The Avenue's eclectic shops hawk truly unusual merch, like the collection of wacky drawer pulls and light-switch plates at Mud and Metal (813 W. 36th St.; 410-467-8698), assorted candles and extravagant bath goodies at In Watermelon Sugar (3555 Chestnut Ave.; 410-662-9090) and silk-screened T-shirts — check out the awesome ones featuring Nancy Drew — at Minás (815 W. 36th St.; 410-732-4258), which doubles as a gallery for local talent.

The "art" shop Passion Fish (1129 W. 36th St.; 410-925-4133) overflows with a random assortment of dusty paraphernalia like old dolls and vintage dresses. ("It's like walking into someone's dream," described Siger.) And Shine Collective (1007 W. 36th St.; 410-366-6100) manages to meld curious used furnishings — think stuffed fish and bear rugs — with \$60 designer T-shirts.



SHOP HOP: Hampden's boutiques dig up hard-to-find gems. Milagro, above, specializes in international wares, including Bulgarian pottery and Cambodian handbags.

The action is mostly confined to the four blocks of 36th Street between Falls Road and Chestnut Avenue, but visitors could spend hours soaking up the zone's funky vibe. An afternoon disappears with a leisurely lunch accompanied by pomegranate margaritas at Holy Frijoles (908 W. 36th St.; 410-235-2326), a troll through the many furniture shops (some with posh antique end tables and cabinets,

others with junk) and a late-afternoon coffee and cookie snuggled on a sofa at Common Ground Café (819 W. 36th St.; 410-235-5533).

Hampden tourists prowling for souvenirs must swing into Hometown Girl & Co. (1001 W. 36th St.; 410-662-4438), which boasts a '50s-style soda fountain along with a selection of crab-shaped foam hats and pink flamings that expand in water.

Don't scoot out of the enclave without the requisite stop at Cafe Hon, even if it's just for a night-cap at Hon Bar, with live music five nights a week, or a peek at the Hon Boutique, situated next to the hostess stand.

Perusing the fake rhinestone-encrusted cat-eye sunglasses and "Blieve, Hon" bumperstickers that reference the city's empowerment campaign, it's tough to disagree

with Whiting's declaration: "We are now the crown jewel of Baltimore. You can try to imitate us, but you'll never duplicate us."

With its mix of the tacky and the cool, Hampden seems like Charm City's defining neighborhood. It retains a touch of the grit that makes the town unique, while evolving — like much of the rest of the city — into an even more lively place to explore. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

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Fells Point

Colonial shipbuilders and sailors once frequented the cobblestone streets of historic Fells Point. Now its quaint rows of 18th- and 19th-century brick buildings — these days full of lively restaurants, down-home pubs and cool shops — lure visitors east of the Inner Harbor. The area's particularly popular with antiquers and bar hoppers.

More wholesome activities include Preservation Society walking tours with the scoop on local ghosts, immigrant history and ships. Appealing shops sit along the waterfront; among the worthwhile stores is Sound Garden, a huge repository of new and used CDs and records. Or grab a coffee and some borscht at Ze Mean Bean, an Eastern European cafe. A bit removed from the bustle lies Pazo, an Italian small-plates palace that's the new ruler of Baltimore's food scene.

Mount Vernon

George Peabody founded the Peabody Institute in 1857, and the stately surrounding neighborhood remains the cultural epicenter of Baltimore. Fancy townhouses and 19th-century mansions (so Edith Wharton) surround high-minded attractions like The Walters Art Museum, The Maryland Historical Society, Center Stage and the Contemporary Museum. Mount Vernon one-ups D.C. with a tall monument to George Washington — theirs is older! Each summer, thousands of literate types visit the 'hood to attend Baltimore's Book Festival.

Good eats are as plentiful here as good reads. Get a sugar fix at Sylvan Beach Cafe, where the yummy ice cream ranks among the best in Baltimore. (It's made by a nonprofit for disadvantaged youth.) For dinner, reserve a table at The Helmand for upscale Afghani food, or swing into Iggy's, a newish BYOB gourmet pizza spot.



BESIDE THE POINT: Fells Point's streets are lined with brick buildings like this one, home to the new Indian restaurant Méhék. Wednesday nights are all-you-can-eat.

Federal Hill

It makes sense that Baltimore, the eccentric sister city to D.C., would house the American Visionary Art Museum, the nation's biggest showcase for fringe artists. The cutting-edge Federal Hill gem beckons visitors with the multi-colored "giant whirligig," sculpted by a 76-year-old mechanic/farmer/visonary artist. The inside holds vast exhibits exploring outsider art, like the current one exploring race, class and gender.

The surrounding neighbor-

hood at the edge of the tourist-clogged Inner Harbor is also worth a visit for views from the circa-1788 Federal Hill Park and the bustling businesses on Charles Street and Light Street. Duck into the cozy Metropolitan Coffeehouse & Wine Bar for a classy cocktail or Regi's American Bistro for one of the city's finest crab cakes. For a more raucous evening, hit up the bars that circle Cross Street Market. The area's annual Spring Block Party falls on May 7 this year.

VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

The City's Gritty Side

Writer David Simon's Baltimore won't show up in any guide books

He wrote the book on "Homicide." The award-winning NBC series was based on a nonfiction work by David Simon, a former police reporter for the Baltimore Sun. Simon is now executive producer of HBO's "The Wire," a series about drug wars set in his adoptive hometown (Simon grew up Silver Spring). The show returns for its fourth season on Sept. 10; the DVD of season three comes out Aug. 8.

Do Baltimoreans mind that you focus on violence and drug abuse?

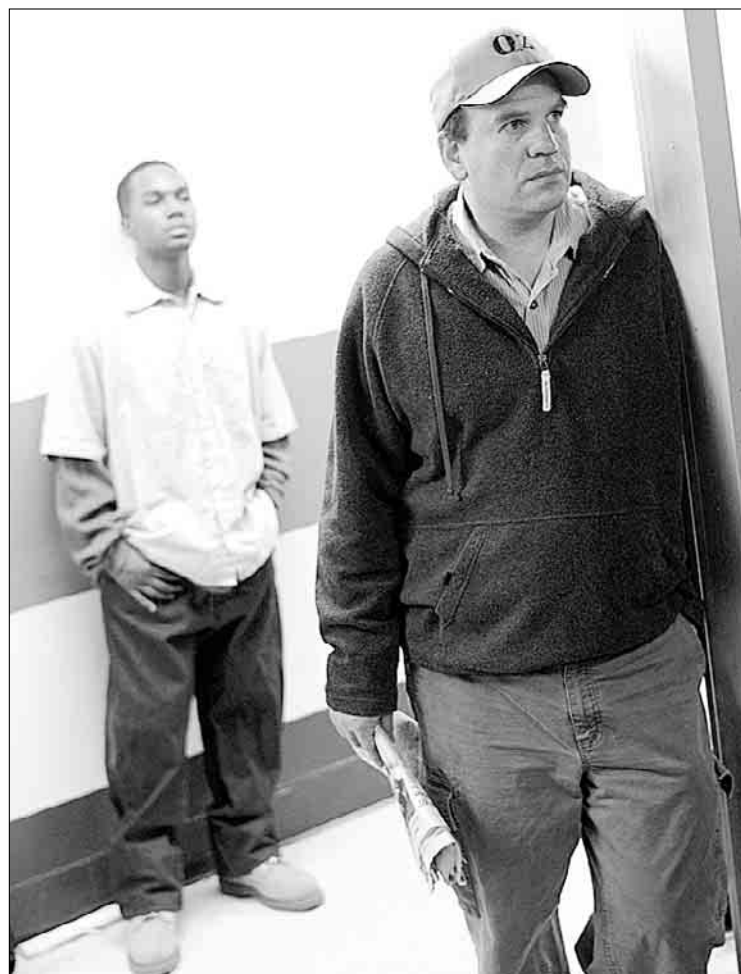
We would probably be less tolerant of someone from outside criticizing us. If I came in from Hollywood, I think they'd hand me my head.

Do your shows make tourists nervous about visiting?

I believe the audience gets that they're not watching all of Baltimore. And the violence [here] is rooted in the drug culture, in extreme poverty and under-education. It crosses over very little to affect the middle class and the tourist class.

Where should a tourist start? The harbor?

Don't go to the harbor! Or go to the harbor once to see what Harborplace is. It's pretty, it's nice,



David Simon, right, is addicted to crab cakes: the platter at Faidley's, at Lexington Market, is his favorite. Above, he's on the set of the HBO drug drama "The Wire."

"... The audience gets that they're not watching all of Baltimore."

DAVID SIMON
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, "THE WIRE"

and the boats look nice. But that's the convention draw. Basically I don't think you'll experience anything remotely Baltimores.

Where is Baltimores to be found?

This is my perversity, but if a container ship is in, I would go park by the fence on Broening Highway in Southeast Baltimore, near Seagirt Marine Terminal. Watch 'em load or unload a ship.

Where else would you take a guest?

To Edgar Allen Poe's grave in Westminster Cemetery. Then I would walk down the block to Davidge Hall, part of the University of Maryland medical school. It's got an operat-

Continued on page 7

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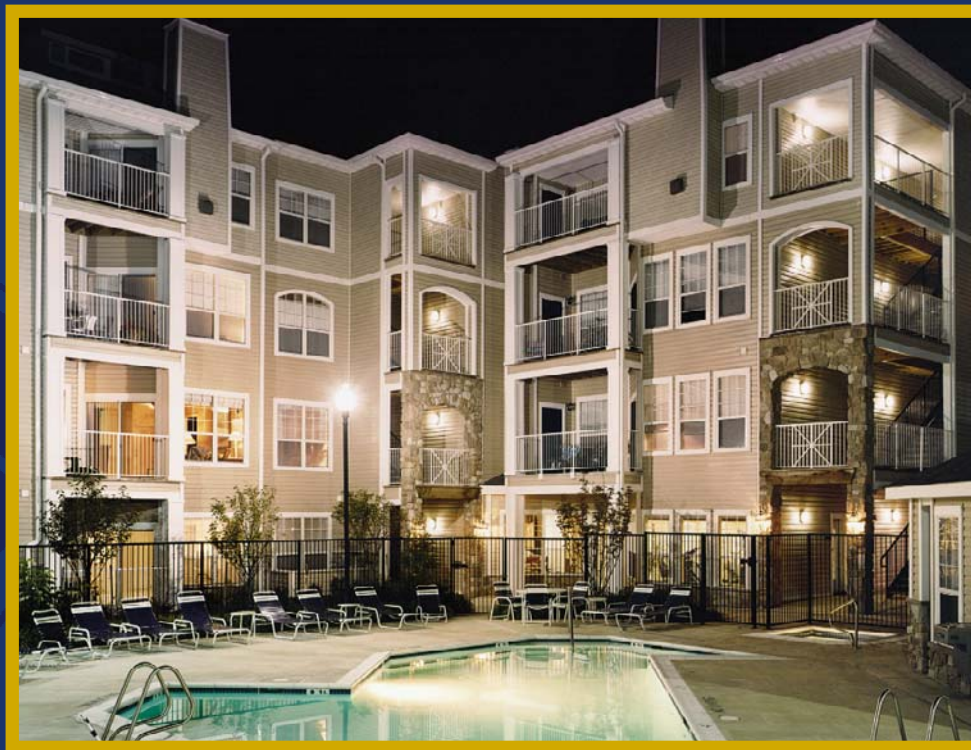
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ON THE WIRE: Simon, here with "Wire" star Dominic West, says the HBO show's stance is against the war on drugs. "Locking people up for drugs is a mistake. It's turned these neighborhoods into war zones ... it's a war against the American underclass."

Continued from 5

ing amphitheater from the early 1800s [and is open for free tours]. And I'd explain most of the bodies in Westminster are not there any more. They were secretly dug up by school custodians and used by the students for anatomy. There's a possibility Poe isn't in Poe's grave — which even Poe would enjoy.

And when your visitor gets an appetite back?

My favorite pizza joint, in Highlandtown since 1943, is Matthew's.

What makes the pizza so good?

It's a thick crust pizza. Just magnificent. They have a crab pie with crabmeat. It's wonderful.

Other dining recommendations?

We've got one of the best Afghan restaurants in America — Hamid Karzai's [brother] runs it: the Helmand, on Charles Street. And there's an excellent Greek seafood place, Black Olive in Fells Point. And you would have to spend time in a 75-tap formstone bar.

Define your terms.

Formstone — I don't know what it is. You have a perfectly fine red brick rowhouse and [a salesman]

“I love hearing it. It makes me feel happy. ... But if my son ever started talking that way, I'd move.”

DAVID SIMON
ON BALTIMORE ACCENTS

says, "What you want to put up is this synthetic gray [stuff] that will protect your red brick."

And 75 tap?

Beers are 75 cents off tap. You can still go to some of these neighborhood bars, anywhere from Waverly to Highlandtown, or in East and West Baltimore in African American neighborhoods. They buzz you in from back behind Plexiglas.

From behind Plexiglas?

There's a whole world that happens that white people don't know about. The owner looks at who's coming in — are they coming in to rob or are they just regular folk. Once they buzz you back it is as warm a tavern experience as you'll

find anywhere. But it's foreboding and formidable if you're coming from suburbs. It's not like you need an African American tour guide, or some sort of Polish tour guide for Highlandtown if you're African American. But you need someone who's with the neighborhood. Or there are bars you walk in and you will lose your lunch money.

Can visitors have a cross-cultural experience on their own?

Here's something I would do, white or black, Christian or heathen. On Sunday I would go to the Bethel AME Church on the West side or New Shiloh just above North Avenue or Leadenhall Baptist in South Baltimore. The Bethel choir can really kick it. It's on a par with the best any cultural institution can offer.

Have you picked up a Baltimore accent?

The white Baltimore accent is so bizarre, it's indescribable. I usually slip into it for comedic purpose: "They think I'm ign'rnt but I'm not, I'm just takking with my Bawlmar accent." I love hearing it. It makes me feel happy, it makes me feel I'm at home. But if my son ever started talking that way, I'd move. **MARC SILVER**

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explore Baltimore



The defining feature of Baltimore's new Museum of African American History and Culture is the vibrant Red Wall of Freedom, which cuts through the interior as well.

A Colorful History

Explore the role of African Americans in Maryland's past

The bright, curving "Red Wall of Freedom" soars 96 feet up the side of the black granite walls of the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture (830 E. Pratt St.; 443-263-1800; africanamericanculture.org). The wall symbolizes the strength and unflagging spirit of African Americans, and it's this story that makes the building much more than an architectural marvel.

Visitors start with the temporary exhibit space, which brings in collections with a national scope. Until April 30, heartbreaking photos depicting the harsh lives of the few remaining African Americans working the soil are on view in "Distant Echoes: Black Farmers in America."

The top floor houses the permanent collection, which follows three themes through local history. "Things Hold, Lines Connect" looks at the pain of separation caused by slavery and a segregated society. "Building Maryland, Building America" focuses on the trades practiced by early slaves and free-

men (Frederick Douglass became a master of caulking in Fells Point), as well as the careers of modern-day African Americans such as the late Reginald F. Lewis, who owned the billion-dollar business TLC Beatrice. And "Strength of Mind" shows off the rich cultural tradition of African Americans in state, from Benjamin Banneker's almanacs to the performances at the strip of jazz clubs along Baltimore's Pennsylvania Avenue.

Many museums begin with a collection and construct a building to house it, but the Lewis came to be the opposite way. Once the Maryland General Assembly decided there was a need for such a museum, the next step was finding objects to put on display. When the planners sounded the call for donations, families started "opening grandma's trunk," according to acting director David Terry.

One wall is dedicated to James Dorsey, who approached the museum's chairman with a battered cylinder no bigger than a school ruler that held his grandfather's manumission papers from 1860. "He had fashioned this tube by hand to protect his freedom. Not only had it protected his freedom papers through his life, it got them to us," Terry said.

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The museum isn't merely a hall of fame — although there are plenty of marquee names with a Maryland connection (including Harriet Tubman, Cab Calloway and Josiah Henson, whose life inspired "Uncle Tom's Cabin"). The more ordinary stories can be the most affecting, such as the section devoted to Nurse Esther McCready, who sued for admission to the whites-only Maryland College of Nursing.

A sign next to McCready's display notes that she is also a docent at the museum. But she isn't the only one with a stirring tale. "On any given day, you can expect to see halls filled with students and they'll be butted in on by the elderly person who actually remembers that time," Terry said. That's why the facility is also spreading the word about its oral history project. Anyone who wants to use the



Quiltmaker Barbara Pietila reflects on her heritage with this slavery scene.

recording equipment to remember Maryland's past is welcome. Then, they too, may become part of the museum. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

OTHER CHARM CITY ATTRACTIONS

From a star-spangled fort to a waterfront showcase of sharks, jellyfish et al.:

BABE RUTH BIRTHPLACE AND BASEBALL CENTER The rowhouse where legendary slugger George Herman Ruth entered the world is just a long fly ball from Oriole Park at Camden Yards. Exhibits use photos, artifacts and film clips to detail the Bambino's life and career. 216 Emory St.; April–October, daily 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (7:30 p.m. on baseball game days), admission \$6 adults, \$4 seniors, \$3 children; 410-727-1539; baberuthmuseum.com.

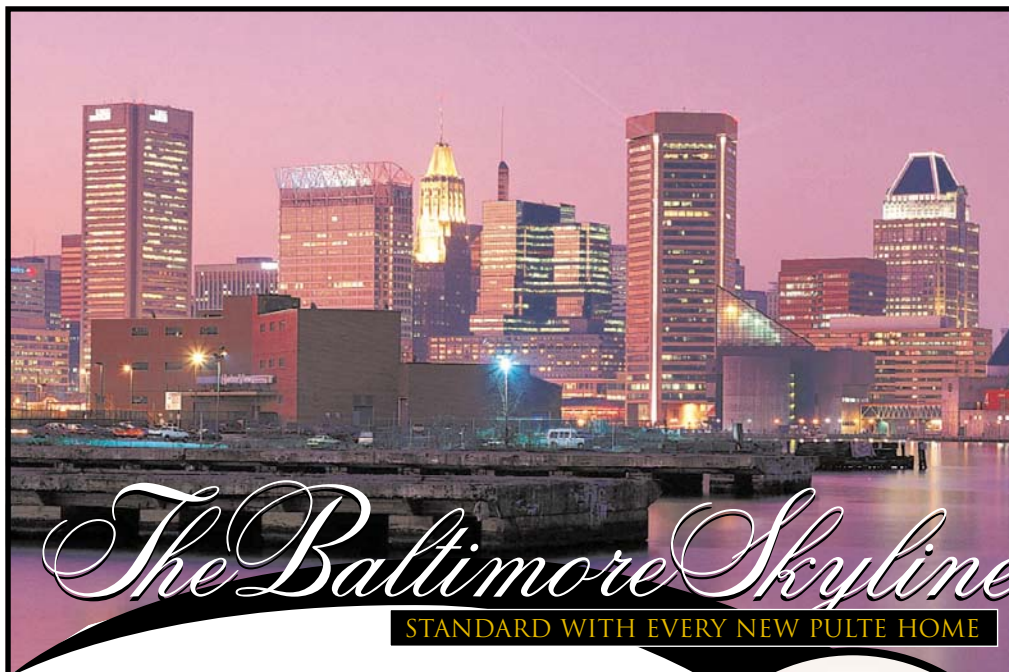
BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART Matisse, van Gogh and Picasso paintings, Andy Warhol Pop prints and three floors of decorative arts (think made-in-Baltimore chairs and whole rooms taken from historic Maryland houses) fill the city's (and the state's) largest art museum. It's housed in a neoclassical building by John Russell Pope with a newer, aluminum and cement contemporary wing. 10 Art Museum Dr.; Wed.–Fri., 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat.–Sun., 11 a.m.–6 p.m., \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, \$6 students; 443-573-1700; artbma.org.

FORT MCHENRY Yeah, an enormous banner still waves over this harborfront military stronghold and museum where American troops held off pesky redcoats during the War of 1812. A well-done intro film details the star-shaped fort's history, and gives the scoop on how the Battle of Baltimore inspired Francis Scott Key to pen "The Star-Spangled Banner." East Fort Ave.; grounds open daily, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.; Fort and Visitor Center, open daily 8 a.m.–4:45 p.m. (longer hours in summer); admission \$5 (children 16 and under free); 410-962-4290; nps.gov/fomc.

MARYLAND SCIENCE CENTER Three levels of hands-on, that's-so-cool! exhibits explore subjects like human anatomy, dinosaur biology and outer space. Particularly kid friendly, the spot hosts a demo stage with live experiments, a massive planetarium and an IMAX movie theater. 601 Light St.; Sat.–Wed. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thurs.–Sun. 10 a.m.–8 p.m. (extended hours after Memorial Day); admission \$14.50–\$18.50 adults, \$10–\$13 children 3–12; 410-685-5225; marylandsciencecenter.org.

NATIONAL AQUARIUM IN BALTIMORE Sharks and jellyfish and blue crabs — oh my! The mega-popular tourist attraction holds 10,000-plus creatures that live in and around H2O, with exhibits focusing on coral reefs, marine mammals and waterfowl plus dolphin-feeding sessions. 501 E. Pratt St.; Fridays 9 a.m.–8 p.m., other days 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Admission \$21.95 adults, \$14.95 children ages 3–11 (reserved tickets recommended; call 410-547-7328); 410-576-3800; aqua.org.

JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)



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What's More in Baltimore

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Charm City happenings:

BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Marin Alsop hasn't yet started her milestone gig as the first female music director of a major U.S. orchestra (though you can buy a \$15 poster of her at the BSO's Web site). But there'll be big excitement on April 21 and 22, when Elvis Costello joins the BSO to perform "Il Sogno," his first full-length orchestral work. Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall, 1212 Cathedral St.; 410-783-8000; baltimoresymphony.org

FIRST LOOK CENTERSTAGE

The city's leading theater company opens the curtain on plays still in development. The next installment on Mon., March 27 at 8 p.m. is "Killing Women," about moms doubling as assassins. Another reading will go up April 3—each program is just \$5. On the main stage, August Wilson's "Radio Golf," starts Fri., March 24. 700 North Calvert St., 410-332-0033; centerstage.org.

HELLO GORGEOUS! FASHION, BEAUTY, AND THE JEWISH-AMERICAN IDEAL

The Jewish Museum of Maryland delves into the impact of the Chosen People on the American ideals of beauty and style. See fab vintage clothing, shoes and jewelry as you ponder the Jewish influence on garment manufacturing, retail and pop culture. Through May 26. 15 Lloyd St.; Sun., Tue., Wed., Thu., 12 p.m.-4 p.m., \$8 adults, \$4 students, \$3 kids under 12; 410-732-6400; jhsm.org.

IN CELEBRATION OF WOMEN

Chicks dig Baltimore, Baltimore digs chicks. The In Celebration of Women passport, good through May 31, offers coupons for 30 attractions. Some have clear links to the gentler gender, like half-price tix to "Little Women: The Broadway Musical." Others, less so, like the Maryland Zoo. Download the passport at the Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association Web site (baltimore.org/women).

Homes in the Range

Residents find all the perks of city life at a fraction of D.C.'s costs

To build or rebuild? That's the question in Baltimore these days. With good values on historic homes and cool new condos, people just can't wait to get their hands on a piece of the real-estate pie known as Charm City.

Depending on the neighborhood, homes have appreciated anywhere from 30 to 300 percent in the past few years. In 2005, the annual average price of homes sold in Baltimore was \$158,600 — a 23 percent increase over 2004. Compare that to D.C., where the figure was \$522,200 for 2005. On average, Baltimore City homes cost roughly 70 percent less than their equivalents in the District.

"Baltimore is a great value for home buyers and investors. We get people from New York, the West Coast and Florida," said Chris Cook, a real-estate agent with Re/Max. "They are reading about real-estate investing and coming to see what Baltimore's all about. And they're seeing a tremendous value."

"People from D.C. just can't believe the variety that's in the affordable range here," said Tracy Gosson, executive director of Live Baltimore, a nonprofit that promotes the benefits of city living.

Investors and homeowners snap up property in popular, established communities like Canton, Federal Hill, Roland Park and Mt. Washington, where the average price tag in 2005 ranged from \$289,000 to \$475,000.

But communities with many properties undergoing renovation are also all the rage. They include Reservoir Hill, Patterson Park and Washington Village, with an average price in 2005 from the low \$120s to mid \$200s.

Another area ripe for rehab: the Station North Arts and Entertainment District, formerly known as Charles North. City officials coined the new neighborhood name in 2002, aiming to create an arts enclave for painters, sculptors,



MINI-MANSIONS, GOING CHEAP: The average price of a home in the Mt. Washington 'hood? A measly \$333,587 in 2005.

“People from D.C. just can't believe the unbelievable variety that's in the affordable range here.”

TRACY GOSSON
LIVE BALTIMORE

actors and other creative pros. At Station North Townhomes, 35 strikingly contemporary new townhomes are being built; a two- or three-bedroom will run from the upper \$300s to the low \$500s. Station North's location next to Penn Station makes it attractive to both commuters and frequent travelers.

Baltimore's public transit system also draws builders to Maryland's largest city. "Baltimore is becoming transit-oriented," said Sean Ruppert, president of the Ruppert O'Brien Group. "Look at D.C. Everything they develop is centered around a Metro [station]. That's never been the case in Baltimore. But now we've got the trains, a metro and a light-rail system. A lot of new development is

occurring around those areas."

Condos and townhouses make up a majority of the new construction, with a massive influx planned in the next few years for areas like Westport, Locust Point and Canton. Townhouses currently being built in Fells Point are up for grabs in the upper \$500,000 range.

In addition to new properties, expect to see many apartment conversions. "When the condo market was flat here in the '80s and '90s, there was a lot of development of apartments," said Cook. "Now you're seeing those being converted [into condos]. There's a lot of demand for those properties. You'll see more condos and more people moving downtown."

All those condos are helping fuel a population explosion. For years, the city was losing residents to the suburbs. But in the past five years, Baltimore City's population has stabilized and is projected to increase through 2010 as people recognize the value, economic stability and perks of city living. It's particularly appealing to those in the District who are itching to own a home.

State and local efforts to strengthen the economy and revitalize the area mean buyers in Baltimore can enjoy some finan-

cial assistance. Grants for those who work in Baltimore City are available through the City Employee Home Ownership Program and the Baltimore City Live Near Your Work

Program; the latter specifically targets first-time home buyers. The Healthy Neighborhood Initiative offers loans at below-market rates to homeowners looking to spruce up their existing residences.

The nonprofit organization Live Baltimore (livebaltimore.com) assists those interested in the area. The group not only helps people find real-estate agents and developers, it also keeps statistics on schools, crime and other important factors that determine a city's health. Gosson said the organization tracks how many people are planning to invest and resell versus how many will renovate and remain as owner-occupants. And while plenty of people are looking to make a quick buck off investment properties, many more are calling Baltimore home.

Gosson said the easy commute and myriad transportation options clearly appeal to many buyers. "Do you want to work in the city and be home in 10 minutes, or do you want to spend two hours a day in your car?" But she says the city itself is the real value.

"People are really sold on the concept of living in Baltimore City. The quality of life is great. You're paying less but you're not getting less." **LYNN THORNE**

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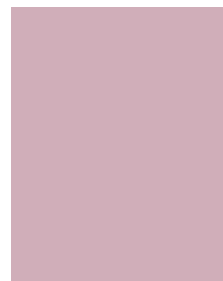
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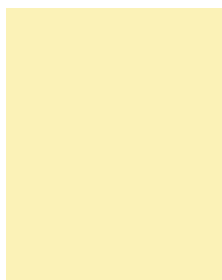
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